

Land

WORD PICTURES
OF THE
LAND
IN TOWNSHIPS
ALONG THE LINE
OF THE
GRAND TRUNK PACIFIC RAILWAY

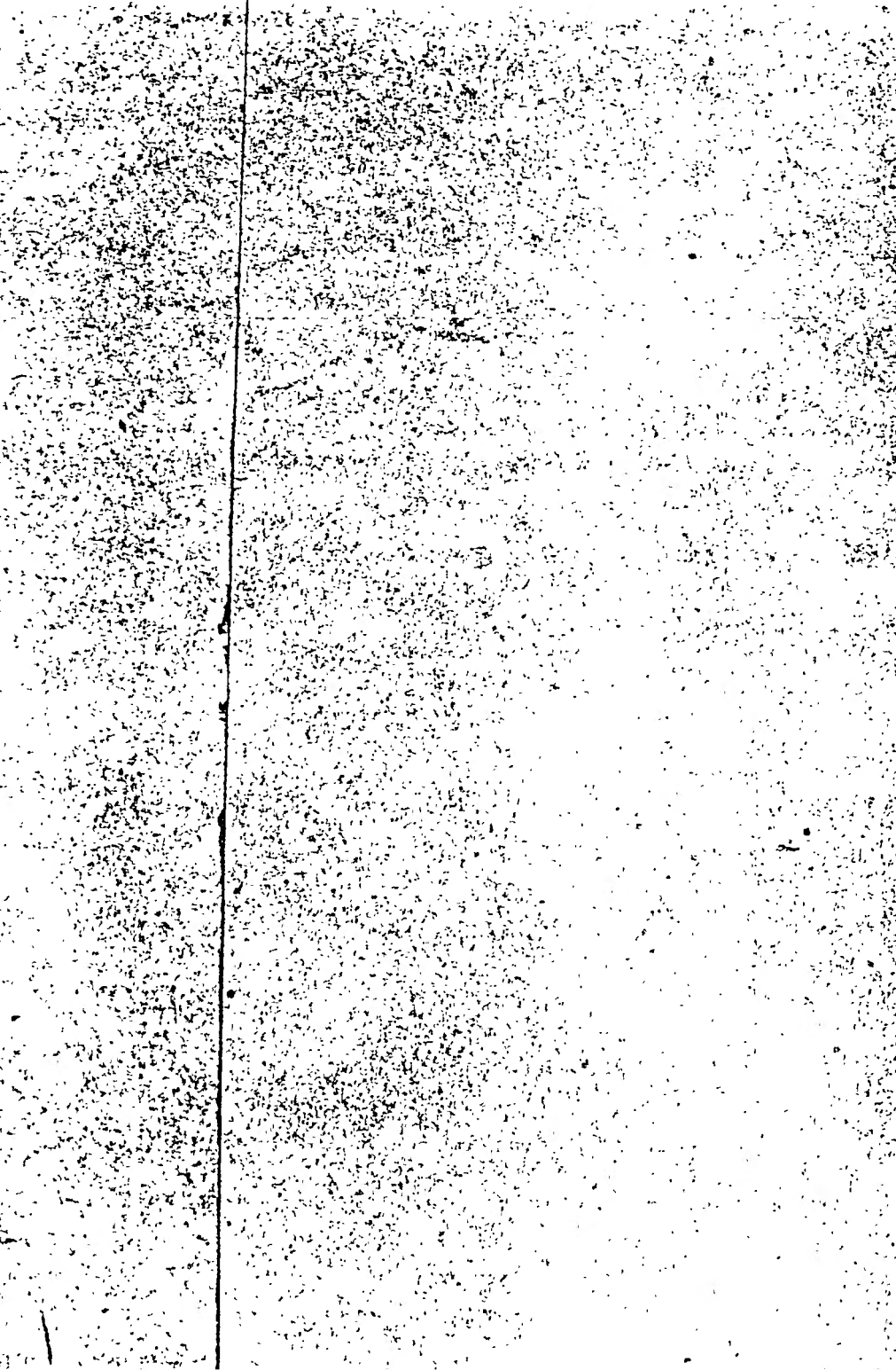
REPORTS
OF
GOVERNMENT LAND SURVEYORS
FOR USE IN CONNECTION
WITH
HOMESTEAD AND PURCHASE LAND
PAMPHLETS OF THE RAILWAY

SECTION WEST OF 4th AND 5th
MERIDIANS

PAMPHLET L5



ISSUED BY THE
GENERAL PASSENGER DEPARTMENT
GRAND TRUNK PACIFIC RAILWAY
WINNIPEG, MANITOBA



WORD PICTURES
OF THE
LAND IN TOWNSHIPS
ALONG THE LINE OF THE



Grand Trunk Pacific Railway

Reports of Government Land Surveyors for use in connection with
Homestead and Purchase Land Pamphlets of the Railway.

SECTION
West of 4th and 5th Meridian
Pamphlet L5

ARCHIVES
OF
SASKATCHEWAN

Issued by the

GENERAL PASSENGER DEPARTMENT,
Grand Trunk Pacific Railway,
WINNIPEG, MANITOBA.

GENERAL REMARKS

The reports of the Dominion Land Surveyors, which are collected and printed herein, are thoroughly reliable, but in the case of the older surveys the physical features have doubtless changed in many cases, due to the growth or destruction of timber, the later discovery of coal or good water, the making of prairie roads and other changes which may come with the settlement of the land, which has been going on rapidly for several years. The year of survey is shown in each case after the notes, thus:—1880. Field notes are also available in many cases which will be more specific with respect to certain townships than the original surveys as shown herein. When available these will be procured upon application to the General Passenger Agent, Grand Trunk Pacific Ry., Winnipeg.

These notes are for use in connection with the schedule of homestead lands open for settlement as they appear in Homestead Pamphlet L1, which may be procured from Grand Trunk Pacific and Grand Trunk Railway agents, ticket agents and district officials, also for use in connection with purchase land and similar publications which will appear from time to time.

The Surveyors' reports for the townships along other sections of the Grand Trunk Pacific Railway will be found in the pamphlets, L3, west of the 1st and 2nd meridians; and L4, west of the 3rd meridian. The "outlines" of each township in the description refer to the lines run by the Land Surveyors in defining the township, and the "sub-division" refers to the surveys of the sections.

The class of land is designated as first, second, third class, etc., in many townships. These three classes are from good to excellent clay loam on clay subsoil lands of varying depths, and those described as fourth class, etc., are not necessarily of such an inferior class to be unsuitable for mixed farming or other proper working.

While the mention of marshes frequently in these reports may indicate to some that lands with marshy sections are undesirable, this is far from being the case, as these marshes furnish the luxuriant grasses and hay so necessary for the feeding of the live stock, and when there is a scarcity of hay a lease to cut same for feed on other property must be procured, or the fodder purchased.

SURVEYORS' DESCRIPTIONS
OF
LANDS IN TOWNSHIPS
ALONG THE LINE OF THE
Grand Trunk Pacific Railway
WEST OF THE 4TH AND 5TH MERIDIANS

TOWNSHIPS WEST OF FOURTH MERIDIAN.

Town-
ship.

Range 1.

41. **Outlines.**—The greater—and southerly—portion is open and hilly, or rolling, with large valleys, containing, in some instances, large ponds. There are also many ponds, containing good water, in the northerly end, and the surface here is hilly and broken. A creek, about 2 feet deep, which crosses the line six times in Sections 30 and 31, flows out from a lake a little east of the latter point. Along its banks there is some poplar and willow, and also some poplar bush in a ravine in Section 19. Soil, principally clay loam, 10 or 12 inches deep, over clay, as far north as the middle of Section 30, from which point it is sand or sandy loam, over sand. It is rated class 1 on the southern, class 2 on the central, and 2 to 3 on the northern sections.—1883.

1st Report.—The soil in the south-eastern part is clay loam or loam, and classes 1 to 2. In the north-eastern portion the soil becomes sandy, and classes 2 to 4. Some poplar clumps may be found in the north-eastern part.—1881.

2nd Report.—On the eastern boundary, going north, the land becomes much broken, with a good soil, to the first large lake in Sections 12 and 24, where it becomes very sandy, and continues so. North of the lake an extensive clump of 6 to 8-inch poplar extends to another lake in Section 36, which is saline.—1882.

South.—The surface is rolling. Small lakes, ponds and marshes are frequently met with. There is no wood along the line, but there is some about three miles north. Soil, black loam, 4 to 9 inches deep. Class 1.—1883.

42. **Outlines.**—The surface is generally hilly, broken and sandy, with numerous large ponds. There is a large lake at the north-east corner, containing very saline water. Another lake at the south-west corner contains water

TOWNSHIPS WEST OF FOURTH MERIDIAN—Continued.

Town-
ship.

which is moderately good. There is plenty of wood, in the shape of small poplar, all along the line; also considerable scrub, some willows, and, in a few places, belts of small poplar timber, 8 to 12 inches in diameter. Soil, Sections 6, 7 and 31, principally sand. Class 3 in the two latter, and class 4 in the first. Sections 18 and 19, about 12 inches of loam, over clay. Class 2 in the latter, and 2 to 3 in the former. Section 30, chiefly sand, or sandy loam. Classes 2 to 3.—1883.

East.—Rolling and hilly country, covered with scrub, brushwood and, in the south, clumps of fair-sized poplar.—1882.

43. **Outlines.**—The north-west part is much broken by hills and ridges, with poplar clumps, a large portion of it being dead. The north-east corner is lower, and gently-rolling land, with but little wood. An open sandy valley extends from Section 7, easterly, three or four miles. Along the southern boundary hilly, sandy land is found, with scattered poplar brush and numerous ponds, some of them being alkaline. A part of a large saline lake enters it in the south-east corner. The soil is either a sandy loam or sand, and classes from 2 to 4.—1884.

North of a pond, in Section 12, an extensive clump of 6 to 8-inch poplars extends north along the east boundary. The land is well suited for settlement, containing several tracts of excellent soil.—1882.

44. **Outlines.**—North.—The surface is principally undulating, except on Sections 31 and 35, which are somewhat broken. On the former is a creek about 3 feet deep, with rapid current and good water, and course north-easterly. The valley of the creek which is about 90 feet deep, contains some fair-sized spruce. A little south of the line a smaller creek flows into the first. There is some heavy poplar in the west of Section 33, and small poplar, willow and scrub elsewhere. Small lakes and ponds also occur at intervals. The soil is, for the most part, sandy loam, over sand, with now and then an interval of clay. Rated class 1 in the east and 2 in the west.—1883.

The easterly portion is open prairie, with a large valley leading north-erly into the valley of Battle River. The westerly parts contain many sand ridges, with a large quantity of poplar and brush. Many of the trees are 13 inches in diameter and 50 feet clear. Ribstone Creek crosses the extreme north-west corner, running in a narrow coulee, 150 feet deep. Exposed layers of sandstone were noticed in the sides of the valley. Pasturage is very good among the poplars, and about the ponds, vetches and peavines are plentiful. The soil is sandy loam or sand. Classes 2 to 4.—1884.

Along the south-east of the township poplars abound, till a lake is reached, between Sections 12 and 13. A trail crosses Section 25, and there are a few small marshes. The land is well suited for settlement, as it contains several tracts of excellent soil.—1882.

45. **Outlines.**—Undulating prairie, interspersed with bluffs of small poplar, mixed with willows and dry wood. Battle River runs through the centre, from west to east. It is a stream about 1½ chains broad by 3 feet deep, and where it is crossed by the west boundary has a sandy bottom, and fresh water. Its current runs at the rate of two miles an hour. It lies in a valley of about one and a-half miles wide and 100 feet deep. A belt of timber—a mixture of poplar, cottonwood, birch, cherry and thick willows—appears along its shores. A beautiful creek (Ribstone) runs from the south across Sections 6, 7, 8 and 17, to Battle River, in a ravine 100 feet

TOWNSHIPS WEST OF FOURTH MERIDIAN—*Continued.*Town-
ship.

deep. The soil is rated class 1, being a clay loam on a clay subsoil. There are numerous freshwater ponds.—1884.

The Battle River is fairly wooded, and there are clumps of trees in the north of the township. The land is well suited for settlement, and water fresh.—1882.

South.—The surface is principally undulating. On Section 6 there is a creek, about 60 links wide and 3 feet deep, with good water. The valley of the creek contains some fair-sized spruce. There is some heavy and small poplar, willow and scrub all along the line. A few small lakes, ponds, &c., occur. The soil is sandy loam, and occasionally clay. Rated class 1 in the east and 2 in the west.—1883.

10. **Outlines.**—Rolling prairie, interspersed with bluffs of poplar, willows and dry wood. There are numerous ponds of good water. The soil ranks first class, and is either clay or black loam, with clay subsoil.—1884.

The eastern boundary crosses and recrosses the valley of a creek several times. There are clumps of timber along the creek, and a few elsewhere. The land is well suited for settlement, containing several tracts of excellent soil. Water, good and fresh.—1882.

47. **Outlines.**—Heavy rolling prairie, somewhat hilly in west half, with a few patches of willows in the eastern portion and bluffs of young poplar, willows and dry wood in west half. It is well watered by ponds and Black-foot Creek, which runs through its centre in a southerly direction. This is a small stream, about 10 to 20 links broad and 1 foot deep, of excellent water. The soil is a good sandy loam, with clay subsoil, and ranks first class.—1884.

On the eastern side of the township, going north, there is brushwood, some scattered clumps of small poplar and a few small marshes. There is also a creek in Section 24. Water is good and fresh in all the ponds and creeks. The land is well suited for settlement, and contains tracts of excellent soil.—1882.

Range 2.

41. **Outlines.**—The north-easterly quarter is hilly and sandy, with a small quantity of poplar. The remainder is open. A valley leads into the north-east corner, containing alkaline bottom lands and a small running brook, which empties into the lake in Township 41, Range 1. Another valley crosses the southern end in an easterly direction. The rest of the township has a rolling surface, except in the north-west corner, where it becomes hilly. A number of sloughs and ponds are scattered over the surface. The soil varies from sandy to clay loam. Classes 1 to 2. Soil, generally, clay loam, 10 or 12 inches deep, over clay, for the easterly southern two-thirds, from which point, northwards, it is sand or sandy loam, over sand. It is rated class 1 on the southern, class 2 on the central, and classes 2 to 3 on the northern divisions.—1884.

Southwards.—It is rolling and hilly. Poplar bluffs were seen from three to five miles north of the line. There are also several sand hills. The soil, however, is generally a black loam, 4 to 12 inches deep, with sandy and, sometimes, stony subsoil. Class 2 on Sections 4 and 5, but class 1 on the rest.—1883.

42. **Outlines.**—The northern boundary is crossed by a high range of hills in Sections 33 and 34, which extend southerly through the township. The

GRAND TRUNK PACIFIC RAILWAY

TOWNSHIPS WEST OF FOURTH MERIDIAN—Continued.

Town-
ship.

north-east and north-west portions are undulating sandy land, and the remaining area is rolling or hilly. Along the western boundary the country is open. Bluffs of poplar may be found scattered over the rest of the township. There are also numerous ponds, with good grazing about them, scattered about. Southwards.—The soil is sand, class 4, but it improves gradually towards the central portion of the township, where there is a broad belt of better soil—sometimes gravelly—which consists chiefly of clay loam, 12 inches deep, over clay. Classes 2 and 3. On the north-easterly one-third it is also rated classes 2 and 3, but consists, principally, of sandy loam over sand.—1884.

43. **Outlines.**—Ribstone Creek crosses the west boundary in Section 7 and runs north-east, crossing the northern boundary in Section 34. A high range of hills extends south-westerly through it, from Sections 34 and 35. The west part of the township is thickly covered with willow and scrubby poplar, the soil here being sandy loam, classes 1 to 2. Along the northern boundary the country is bare of brush, but over the remainder of the township scattered clumps of poplar are frequent. Adjoining the eastern boundary the surface is knolly and broken, except in Section 12, where a sandy open valley enters it and extends west. On the high land the soil is loam or clay loam, and is classes 1 to 3. Numerous ponds, with capital grazing about them, are situate in this township.—1884.

44. **Outlines.**—Northwards.—The surface is rolling. A few ponds and several swamps are to be found. Poplar bluffs are frequent, and of considerable magnitude; but the timber, although from 4 to 8 inches in diameter, is rotten at the heart, and unfit for building purposes. Soil, sandy loam; on the two eastern sections, class 1; on the rest, class 2.—1883.

Has a gently-rolling or undulating surface, with a small quantity of poplar and willows. Ribstone Creek runs northerly along the eastern boundary, in a valley which gradually deepens to 150 feet, where it leaves it in the north-east corner. Along this valley the most bush in this township may be found. Some of the poplar trees are 12 inches in diameter and fully 50 feet clear. The central and southern part appears to have but little bush. A good many ponds and sloughs, with good grazing, about them. The soil varies from dark, sandy loam in the west, to sand in the east, and is classed 1 to 4.—1884.

45. **Outlines.**—Gently-rolling prairie, interspersed with numerous bluffs of poplar, mixed with willows and dry wood. It is broken in its north half by the Battle River, the valley of which is about the same width and depth as already described in Township 45, Range 1. Groves of large cottonwood—mixed with thick willows, birch and small cherry—may be seen in the valley along the shores of the river. Good water is in abundance. The soil is either clay or clay loam, of a first class quality.—1884.

Southwards.—A few ponds and several swamps are to be found. The soil is sandy and clay loam. Poplar bluffs are frequent, and of considerable size.—1883.

46. **Outlines.**—Gently-rolling prairie, interspersed with bluffs of young poplar, willows and dry wood. There is good water in quantity in deep ponds. The soil ranks first class, being clay or clay loam, with clay subsoil.—1884.
47. **Outlines.**—The soil is a good sandy loam, with a clay subsoil. The country is generally rolling prairie, interspersed with clumps of small poplar, dry

GRAND TRUNK PACIFIC RAILWAY

TOWNSHIPS WEST OF FOURTH MERIDIAN—Continued.

Town-
ship.

wood and willows, increasing in extent along the south boundary. There are numerous ponds and lakelets, mostly of excellent water. The Battleford and Edmonton trail crosses through this township. Heavy-rolling prairie, but hilly in the south-east quarter. The soil is a good sandy loam, with clay subsoil, well watered by numerous ponds and lakelets. Patches of willows and small poplar appear here and there.—1884.

Range 3.

41. **Outlines.**—The whole of this township is open land, with the exception of a small quantity of poplar and willow on the north boundary. The surface in the south-east parts is rolling, with a sandy loam soil and some scattered stones. Classes 1 to 2. But few sloughs occur. A small creek running northerly, enters in Section 7 and leaves the township in Section 32, bordered, in some parts of its course, by low, marshy land. The westerly part of the township is high and rolling, or hilly, with scattered stone, gravel, and sloughs in the hollows. A range of hills extending southerly crosses Section 33, along the west base of which the creek above mentioned runs. The soil is generally sandy loam or sand, and rates classes 1 to 3.—1884.

South.—Some small ravines run northward. Granite boulders crop out from the hillsides. Soil, first class.—1883.

42. **Outlines.**—The creek mentioned in Township 41 enters this township in Section 5—running north-easterly—and leaves it in Section 35, where the channel is 15 feet wide, water 2 feet deep, sandy bottom, rapid current and good water. The surface is open and hilly or rolling, along the southern boundary. The soil is loam or sand, classed 1 to 3. The rest is undulating or rolling, with sand ridges or knolls and small scrub poplar; also muskegs and ponds in the northerly part. The soil here changes from sandy loam to sand, and is classed from 2 to 4.—1884.

43. **Outlines.**—Has a rolling surface, broken, in the greater part, by low sand ridges covered with small poplar, much of it scrubby, with willows in the hollows and ground cedar on the knolls. In the north-east corner a small tract of good land, with sandy loam soil was noted. Classed 1 to 2. The remainder of the township is sandy and broken, classed 3 to 4. Ribstone Creek enters on Section 19, crosses it in an easterly direction, is bordered by a muskeg with willows, and leaves it in Section 12.—1884.

44. **Outlines.**—**North.**—Hilly country, with bluffs of poplar and patches of willow covering nearly half of the surface. Ponds are numerous in the west. The soil is principally clay loam, 3 to 6 inches deep, over clay. Class 1.—1882.

Has, generally, a rolling or undulating surface, except in the north-west corner, where it is high, broken by short ridges, and a ridge 70 feet high in Sections 2 and 3. Poplar—much of it dead—and willows are widely scattered over it. There are many ponds and sloughs, with good grazing land about them. The soil is principally a good loam, classed 1 to 2. Some sandy soil extends across the southern parts, classed 3 to 4.—1884.

45. **Outlines.**—Is generally rolling, with the exception of the south-west quarter, which is hilly and knolly. It is interspersed with bluffs of young poplar and willows, generally suitable for all purposes. The soil is either clay or clay loam, of a first class quality. Battle River runs through the north-

TOWNSHIPS WEST OF FOURTH MERIDIAN—*Continued.*

Town-
ship.

east quarter, in Sections 25, 26, 33 and 34. It is generally 4 feet deep, with a sandy bottom, and a two to three mile current.—1884.

The country along the southern boundary is dotted with numerous poplar bluffs and some ponds and swamps. The soil is of a first class quality.—1882.

46. **Outlines.**—The south-west half is hilly, and broken by Battle River and its deep adjoining ravines. Clumps of fair sized poplar appear all along the river banks. Good water is in abundance in deep ponds and lakelets. The soil is either black loam or clay loam, with clay subsoil, and ranks first class.—1884.
47. **Outlines.**—Is generally rolling and open in the north half, but is somewhat hilly, and interspersed with numerous bluffs of small poplar, dry wood and willows in the south half. The soil is a rich sandy loam, with clay subsoil, watered by numerous ponds and a small creek which crosses through the west boundary and empties into Battle River.—1884.

Range 4.

41. **Outlines.**—Has but very little bush, having generally an open, rolling or hilly surface. Along part of the northern boundary the surface is undulating, the soil being black loam, class 1. A large alkaline slough or marsh crosses into it in Sections 18 and 19, extending easterly. Along this side the soil is sandy loam, or sandy, classes 2 to 3. In the eastern parts the surface is hilly or broken. The hollows contain ponds or sloughs, and the soil is a hard sandy loam. Class 3. A valley, with marshy land, runs westerly from Section 12, being the source of the small creek in Township 41, Range 3.—1884.

South.—Undulating or rolling. Soil, principally, black loam, averaging about 8 inches in depth, with sandy subsoil. Class 1.—1883.

42. **Outlines.**—The north-west portion is high, and broken by sandy ridges, with poplar and willows, and small lakes or ponds in some of the valleys. Class 4. Along the southern boundary the surface is open, rolling or undulating, the soil being dark loam; class 1. In the easterly part the surface is cut up by low sandy ridges, with scrubby poplar; class 4. In the north it is high and rolling, with a little poplar and willow, and some good clay loam soil; class 1. A small stream leading from extensive muskegs and ponds in the north-westerly parts runs north-easterly, leaving the township in Section 33.—1884.
43. **Outlines.**—In the north-west corner the land is sandy, hilly and broken, thickly covered with poplars, some of them 8 inches through, mixed with willows and scrub brush; class 4. Along the west boundary, south of this broken part, the surface is undulating and sandy, with low scattered poplar, willow, ground cedar and poor grass; class 4. In the eastern portions the land is broken by sand ridges, and has small poplars, willows, poor grass and no water; class 4. Ribstone Creek crosses the north-east corner, running in a south-easterly direction, entering in Section 35 and leaving in Section 24. Its valley contains muskeg and willows. There is some good clay loam soil along the southern boundary, which is generally rolling, with a little poplar; class 1.—1884.
44. **Outlines.**—North.—Hilly country, with numerous ponds and bluffs of poplar and willow. In Section 34 there is a lake. The greater part of Section

GRAND TRUNK PACIFIC RAILWAY

TOWNSHIPS WEST OF FOURTH MERIDIAN—Continued.

Town-
ship.

33 is covered with poplar timber, some of which is of good size and quality. There is also some birch wood. The soil in this Section is chiefly clay loam over clay, and is rated class 3. Along the rest of the line it is alternately clay or sandy loam, 3 or 4 inches deep, with clay or sandy subsoil; class 1.—1883.

In the south-westerly corner a high range of sandy hills, 150 feet elevation, falls to the north and east, densely covered with poplar; class 4. In the north-west the land is undulating and falling to the south, with but little bush. Ribstone Creek enters in Section 30, and following a south-east course, leaves the township in Section 2, having low, wet flats, with willows and rank grass adjoining it. In the north-east the surface is high, and broken by short ridges and knolls, descending to the south, with ponds, sloughs and good grass in the hollows. The soil here is dark loam, classes 2 to 3. Some burnt poplar bluffs appear in this portion. In the south-east low sand ridges, with poplar, break the surface. Large ponds, extending east and west, were observed in a depression in Section 13. On the south boundary the country is hilly and knolly, and, in the centre, is much broken by large ponds, surrounded by a fair growth of good sized poplar.—1884.

45. **Outlines.**—Is very hilly, and broken by deep ponds and lakelets, and heavily timbered with large poplar in clumps, mostly dry, having been destroyed by prairie fire. The soil is a rich black loam, of a first class quality. A creek crosses Section 36. From thence the country becomes rolling towards the north.—1884.
46. **Outlines.**—Is hilly, and mostly covered with burnt underbrush. The soil is good in the south half, and rates 1st class, but it turns to light sand in the north half, and in the neighborhood of a large lake near the west boundary. There is good water in the ponds.—1884.
47. **Outlines.**—The south-west half is hilly, and broken by Battle River, which runs along the west boundary and enters Section 7, running across the south tier of sections in an easterly direction as far as Section 1, where it turns south-easterly and crosses the correction line. Scattered clumps of young poplar are occasionally met with, principally in the valley of the river, where they are large in size. The north-east half is ordinary rolling prairie. The soil rates first class.—1884.

Range 5.

42. **Outlines.**—Has generally a surface much broken by sandhills and ridges, with poplar and willows, which, in the northerly portions, become quite dense, some of the trees being 10 inches through. A number of good sized lakes were noted, one of them being in the south-east corner, another in Section 19, and another in Section 25. Ribstone Creek crosses the south-west corner, running north-westerly through a valley with muskeg and willows. The soil is principally sand. Classes 3 to 4.—1884.
43. **Outlines.**—Has a high or hilly sandy surface in the northerly part, with much poplar and willow bush and some large lakes in the north-west corner. Ribstone Creek enters in Section 7, running north-easterly. It is bordered by a broad muskeg, with willows and with rolling sandy land. The south-easterly parts are rolling sandy land, with low scattered poplar and willows; also ground cedar. Without much water, and classes 3 to 4.—1884.

GRAND TRUNK PACIFIC RAILWAY

TOWNSHIPS WEST OF FOURTH MERIDIAN—Continued.

Town-
ship.

44. **Outlines.**—North.—The land is rolling, with scattered clumps of poplar, but eastward it becomes very broken and hilly. Numerous ponds among the hills. All of the latter are more or less heavily timbered. The soil in the bottoms is first class, but that on the hills is inclined to be light and sandy.—1883.

Ribstone Creek runs north-easterly through this township, and leaves it in Section 25. Along the western boundary the surface is undulating or rolling with clumps of poplar and willows, good grazing and sandy loam soil. Class 2. In the north-east the land is rolling, and falling southerly to the creek, with ponds and sloughs and good pasturage. Sandy loam soil. Class 2. In the south-east the surface is broken by a range of sand-hills 150 feet high, thickly wooded with poplar and willows, and contains some large ponds, having good water. This part has been classed from 3 to 4.—1884.

45. **Outlines.**—Seen from the east boundary, is hilly in the east half, and heavily timbered. The west half appears to be a rolling country. It is broken by a considerable quantity of lakes and ponds. The land is first class.—1884.

South.—The surface is principally rolling, with numerous ponds, swamps and clumps of poplar, willow and scrub, which, on the three eastern sections, are generally standing in water. The soil is, alternately, sandy or clay loam, 3 to 4 inches deep, with clay subsoil. Rated class 1 on the first and last miles, and class 2 on the rest.—1883.

46. **Outlines.**—Is hilly, and mostly covered with burnt willows. This township, as well as Township 45, must have been heavily timbered at one time, to judge by the great quantity of dead wood lying on the ground. The north half is considerably broken by Battle River and its ravines. The soil is generally good.—1884.

47. **Outlines.**—Grizzly Bear Coulee enters this township, and empties its water into Battle River, which runs across the north half, as far as the east boundary, and then turns south and follows the boundary for many miles. The land, though first class as to the soil, is much broken by the Coulee and Battle River in the north and east halves. Good water is in abundance in ponds.—1884.

Range 6.

43. **Outlines.**—Ribstone Creek passes north-easterly through the south-east corner, leaving it in Section 12, being bordered by a broad muskeg, with willows and rank grass. The easterly part of the township is broken by sand ridges, hills and lakes, one of the latter partly in Section 25, being from 2 to 3 miles from east to west, and surrounded by high land, thickly wooded with poplar. Some of the ridges are very steep and abrupt, from 25 to 40 feet high, with bush only on the north slopes. In the west part the surface is either hilly or rolling, with scattered clumps of small poplars and willows. A good many sloughs are located here, with luxuriant grazing about them and among the clumps. In the north-west a valley extends east and west, with bush, large ponds and sloughs. The soil is a sandy loam, and classes from 2 to 3.—1884.

44. **Outlines.**—The surface is rolling on the two western sections and undulating on the rest. There is a growth of grey willows and small poplar

GRAND TRUNK PACIFIC RAILWAY

TOWNSHIPS WEST OF FOURTH MERIDIAN—Continued.

Town-
ship.

scattered over it, except on the first mile and a half going west, which is open prairie, with alkaline spots. Swamps, ponds and marshes occur at intervals along the line, and in the eastern half of 32 is a small running stream of good water. Soil, sandy or clay loam, chiefly the latter, on a clay subsoil. Class 1.—1883.

Has generally an undulating or rolling surface, with scattered poplar and willow sloughs. The soil is loam or sandy loam, and classes 2 to 3. The best land lies in the easterly portions.—1884.

45. Outlines.—Is undulating, with many ponds and lakes. Poplar bluffs are numerous. A lake encroaches on the north-east corner. Soil, first class.—1883.

Along the south boundary the surface is rolling and undulating. Swamps, ponds and marshes occur at intervals. On Section 5 is a small running creek. Soil, sandy or clay loam, chiefly the latter. Class 1.—1883.

46. Outlines.—From the south-west corner, Battle River runs north along the west boundary, and then north-east. A lake encroaches on the south-east corner. The interior of the township is undulating, with many swamps and ponds, and interspersed with bluffs of dry and green poplar. Soil, first class.—1883.

47. Outlines.—Battle River crosses the south-east corner. A large lake extends through the interior. The remainder is very undulating, and interspersed with bluffs of dry and green poplar. Soil, first class.—1883.

Range 7.

44. Outlines.—The easterly part is rolling, with more water in the sloughs and ponds. The grazing in this section is good, with somewhat better soil, varying from loam to light sandy loam. Classes 2 to 3. Poplar and willows are scattered over it, the former being quite thick in Section 13.—1884.

45. Outlines.—The soil in the south-west part is sandy and mostly overgrown with small poplars and willows. Battle River runs through the south part of the township. Along the east boundary the land is good and interspersed with bluffs of young poplar.—1883.

The southern tier of sections is covered with short and stunted poplar, which is only fit for fuel. The surface is inclined to be hilly and uneven, with a sandy soil, which rates third class.—1883.

46. Outlines.—From the south-west corner, the valley of Battle River follows the east boundary for four miles. Buffalo Coulee touches the north-east corner. The remainder of the township is high and undulating, with many bluffs of dry and green poplar. Soil, first class.—1883.

47. Outlines.—Undulating, with many lakes and marshes, and interspersed with poplar bluffs. Buffalo Coulee runs across the township. Soil, first class.—1883.

Range 8.

43. Outlines.—Battle River crosses in the extreme north-west corner, entering in Section 31 and running north-easterly in a valley about one mile broad

GRAND TRUNK PACIFIC RAILWAY

TOWNSHIPS WEST OF FOURTH MERIDIAN—Continued.

Town-
ship.

and 250 feet deep, with deep coulées, containing bush, extending back from the valley. The bed of the river is stony and gravelly. Water from 2 to 6 feet deep. Current from 2 to 4 miles an hour, rapids frequently occurring. The cut banks of the river are from 10 to 42 feet deep of sand and clay. The water is good. The remainder of the township has a rolling or undulating surface, with low sand ridges in the north-east. Scrubby poplars, in bluffs, are scattered over it. Some willows and sloughs were noticed. The grass is generally thin and poor, and the soil mostly sand. Classes 3 to 4.—1884.

44. **Outlines.**—The north boundary, with the exception of Sections 31 and 36, is broken by the valley of Battle River. This valley, which is three-quarters of a mile in width, is timbered rather heavily in certain places. The river runs in a sandy bed, 2 chains wide, with a swift current, and 175 feet below the surface of the adjoining country. It crosses nearly all the north sections.—1883.

Battle River traverses the west part in a northerly direction, the west edge of the valley being about one and a-half miles east of the north-west corner. In the east the surface is mostly broken and useless, low sand ridges being the prevailing characteristic, with scrubby poplar, some willows, ground cedar and scant grass. Class 4.—1884.

45. **Outlines.**—From Section 5, Battle River runs north-east through the south half. South of the river the soil is sandy, and more or less overgrown by small poplars and willows. The remainder is high and undulating, with many swamps and bluffs of poplar. Soil, good.—1883.

The whole of the southern tier of sections, with the exception of Nos. 1 and 6, is broken by the valley of Battle River.—1883.

46. **Outlines.**—Is undulating, and interspersed with bluffs of green and dry poplar. Soil, excellent.—1883.
47. **Outlines.**—Undulating, with bluffs of dry and green poplar. Buffalo Coulée runs through the north-eastern part of the township. Soil, first-class.—1883.

Range 9.

44. **Outlines.**—**North.**—Somewhat hilly, with numerous basins of water, which are not so plentiful as the east boundary is approached. Scattered clumps of poplar were met with, and timber appears both north and south of the line. The soil is clay loam, easily worked, and of first-class quality.—1883.

The westerly sections are principally hilly and broken. There are numerous sloughs and ponds in the hollows, with willows about them. Small poplar in bluffs are also numerous. Good pasturage can be procured in this portion. The soil is black or sandy loam. Classes 2 to 3. In the north-east the surface is sandy, undulating and rolling, and falling easterly to Battle River, with large coulées running in the same direction. In Section 12 a large valley was crossed, extending westerly, which leads to the river. The south-east corner falls in the river valley. Poplar bluffs and willows are thinly scattered over the township. The soil is chiefly sandy loam, and classes from 2 to 3.—1884.

45. **Outlines.**—A valley, through which flows a creek, extends in an easterly direction across this township. South of this valley the land is high and

GRAND TRUNK PACIFIC RAILWAY

TOWNSHIPS WEST OF FOURTH MERIDIAN—Continued.

Town-
ship.

broken. To the north it is undulating, with many bluffs of poplar and some swamps. Soil, good.—1883.

The south is hilly, with numerous ponds among the hills. These ponds are, however, not so plentiful towards the east. Occasionally, patches of poplar and other timber appeared in the north of this line. The soil is a clay loam, and will rank first-class.—1883.

46. Outlines.—Is undulating, with many ponds and swamps. Poplar bluffs are numerous. Soil, of a good quality.—1883.
47. Outlines.—Is undulating, with many ponds and marshes. Poplar bluffs are scattered throughout. In the western part the ponds are innumerable. Soil, good.—1883.

Range 10.

44. Outlines.—West.—Rolling prairie. Hills in Sections 6, 1, 18 and 19 and 30. Sections 6, 7, 18 and 19 are traversed by a creek flowing southward. A lake about 15 chains wide, intersects the northern half of Section 30; also an old trail. Scattered poplar in 6, 18 and 30.—1883.

East.—Hilly and rough, broken land, with willow sloughs and poplar brush. A lake from 15 to 18 chains wide, in Section 36; also others of smaller dimensions in 1, 12, 24 and 25.—1884.

The whole of the northern portion of the township is broken by a large ravine, about 100 feet deep, and its branches. The sides of this ravine are sloping, and in places, thickly dotted with poplar of fair size, and numerous ponds of strong alkaline water are scattered throughout its bottom. The soil is sand and clay loam, but stony in certain places.—1883.

45. Outlines.—High, undulating, and much broken by ponds and lakes. There are many poplar bluffs. Soil, good.—1883.

The southern part of this township is broken by a large ravine, described in Township 44 of this Range. The soil consists of sandy and clay loams, sometimes stony.—1883.

46. Outlines.—High, undulating, and much broken by ponds and lakes. There are many poplar bluffs. Soil, good.—1883.
47. Outlines.—High and undulating, with innumerable lakes and ponds. Soil good, and vegetation luxuriant.—1883.
48. Outlines.—High and undulating, with innumerable lakes and ponds. Thickly interspersed with bluffs of poplar. Soil good, and vegetation luxuriant.—1883.

Range 11.

45. Outlines.—A long, narrow alkaline lake extends from the south-east corner diagonally across the township. In the interior are several lakes. The western part is well wooded. Land, high and undulating. Soil, of a fair quality.—1883.

The surface along the southern boundary has heavy undulations, in the troughs or ravines of which are alkaline lakes and ponds. Poplar, in bluffs, grows here and there. The soil is a sandy and clayey loam.—1883.

TOWNSHIPS WEST OF FOURTH MERIDIAN—*Continued.*Town-
ship.

46. *Outlines.*—A valley, about 50 chains in width, and in which is a long alkaline lake, extends east and west through this township. To the south of this valley the country is much broken. To the north it is undulating, with scattered bluffs of poplar and good soil.—1883.
47. *Outlines.*—Is undulating, with many lakes and ponds. There are many scattered bluffs of poplar. Soil, good, and pasturage excellent.—1883.
48. *Outlines.*—Very undulating and dotted with lakes and ponds. Bluffs of poplar are numerous. Soil, excellent.—1883.

Range 12.

45. *Outlines.*—Is high, undulating, and much broken by lakes and ponds. The soil is a sandy loam, about 6 inches in depth, with clay subsoil.—1883.
South.—Undulating and rolling. Soil, first class.—1883.
46. *Outlines.*—A good portion of this township lies in the Rolling Hills. The country is very broken, and dotted with lakes and ponds. The north sides of the hills are more or less densely wooded. The soil is good and the grasses luxuriant.—1883.
47. *Outlines.*—Very undulating, and broken by ponds and lakes. Poplar bluffs are numerous. The soil is good and the pasturage excellent.—1883.
48. *Outlines.*—Very undulating, and broken by ponds and lakes. Poplar bluffs are numerous. The soil is good and the pasturage excellent.—1883.
49. *Outlines.*—Is an undulating country, with a fine sprinkling of small bluffs of poplar. About the middle of this township there is a small creek running nearly north, which, after passing through some large ponds, empties itself into a large lake in Township 50. The soil is a good sandy loam; subsoil clay.—1884.

Range 13.

45. *Outlines.*—Is traversed by a creek flowing south-east to the Battle River. The land is high and undulating. In the north part are scattered bluffs of poplar. In the interior of the township are several alkaline lakes. Soil, first class.—1883.
The easterly ones of the southern tier of sections are rolling prairie; the more westerly ones are undulating. There are a few swamps and ponds. A creek, meandering south-easterly through the township, leaves by Section 2, and is supposed joins Battle River. The soil is generally first class, with some gravelly places.—1883.
46. *Outlines.*—Is high and undulating, with many swamps. A creek runs south through the west part of this township. There are many scattered bluffs of poplar. Soil, first class.—1883.
47. *Outlines.*—In the south-east part the land is undulating, with swamps and scattered bluffs of poplar. The remainder forms part of the Fifteen-Mile Plain, the soil of which is a stiff clay, with scant vegetation.—1883.
48. *Outlines.*—North.—Prairie, with bluffs of small poplar and clumps of willow. The line crosses a few marshes.—1883.

GRAND TRUNK PACIFIC RAILWAY

TOWNSHIPS WEST OF FOURTH MERIDIAN—*Continued.*

Town-
ship.

Sections 1, 12, 13, 24 and 25 are well wooded with poplar. The remainder of the township forms part of the Fifteen-Mile Plain, the soil of which is a stiff clay, with scant vegetation.—1883.

49. **Outlines.**—Is an almost level country, with scattered bluffs of poplar and willow scrub, except the westerly tier of sections, which form part of the Fifteen-Mile Plain, the soil of which is a poor sandy loam. A coulée, 90 feet deep, crosses in Section 25 from the west, and then turns north a few chains east of the meridian, and continues this course through Section 31 of Township 49, Range 12, where it turns east. In some places along this ravine is some fair sized poplar, suitable for building purposes. The soil is a good, dark sandy loam.—1884.

Range 11.

46. **Outlines.**—Is undulating, with a few poplar bluffs, and gravel and clay ridges. Soil, a shallow, sandy loam, with clay subsoil.—1883.
47. **Outlines.**—The west is undulating, with scattered bluffs of poplar and willow. A small creek in Section 18.—1883.
- The east is comparatively level, with a few poplar bluffs. Soil, a sandy loam, with clay subsoil.—1883.

48. **Outlines.**—**North.**—Timber all along this line, also several marshes, and in Section 35 a small creek.—1883.

Is level, and forms part of the Fifteen-Mile Plain. The soil is a stiff clay, in some places mixed with gravel. Vegetation scant.—1883.

49. **Outlines.**—**West and South.**—Rolling country, with bluffs of poplar and willow. The Vermillion River flows, generally north, along the west line, crossing it in Sections 18, 19, 30 and 31. Marshes and ponds are numerous.—1883.

East.—Undulating prairie, with a few willows in Sections 1 and 12. No water.—1884.

50. **Outlines.**—**West.**—Rolling country, with scattered bluffs of poplar and willow. In Section 6 a small creek.—1883.

East.—Nearly level prairie, with numerous clumps of willow in north. Lakes were crossed in Sections 12, 13 and 24; also a marsh, about a half a mile wide in 36 and two smaller ones in 12.—1884.

Range 15.

47. **Outlines.**—**West.**—Prairie, with scrub and bush. Marshes are numerous and large.—1883.

East.—Country is undulating, with scattered bluffs of poplar and willow. A small creek in Section 13. Soil, good.—1883.

48. **Outlines.**—**North.**—Prairie, scrub and bush. Section 31 is very wet, being almost all marsh. Several other marshes were crossed and in 36 a creek, flowing north.—1883.

In the western part of this township are many poplar bluffs and the soil is good. The eastern half forms part of the Fifteen-Mile Plain. Soil, inferior quality.—1883.

GRAND TRUNK PACIFIC RAILWAY

TOWNSHIPS WEST OF FOURTH MERIDIAN—Continued.

Town-
ship.

49. **Outlines.**—Undulating country, thickly dotted with poplar bluffs and thick willow clumps. The poplar timber is generally small, fit only for fuel and fence rails. Numerous ponds and swamps are dotted over the surface, none of which are of large extent, and are generally shallow. The soil is a black loam, from 12 to 15 inches in depth, with a subsoil of clay or clay loam, and ranks first class.—1884.

East.—Rolling country, with bluffs of poplar and willow. The Vermillion River flows, generally north, along this line, crossing it in Sections 13, 24, 25 and 36. Marshes and ponds are numerous.—1883.

50. **Outlines.**—Undulating country, about one-half covered with poplar bluffs and willow clumps. The timber is small, and fit only for fuel and fence rails. Ponds and swamps are numerous, but of small size, and generally shallow. The soil is excellent, being a rich black loam, 10 to 15 inches deep, with a subsoil of clay.—1884.

East.—Rolling country, with scattered bluffs of poplar and willow. In Section 1 the line crosses a small creek.—1883.

Range 16.

47. **Outlines.**—Undulating, and intersected with poplar bluffs. Soil, first class. The marshes are numerous and large.—1883.

48. **Outlines.**—**North.**—Alternate prairie and bush, with a little scrub. Several marshes were crossed, and in Section 32 a little brush.—1883.

Undulating, with scattered poplar bluffs and swamps. Soil, first class.—1883.

49. **Outlines.**—Undulating country, thickly dotted with poplar bluffs and willow clumps, the timber of which is small, and unfit for building purposes. Numerous small ponds and swamps are scattered over the surface. The soil is first class, being a rich vegetable mould from 10 inches to 15 inches in depth, with a subsoil of clay or clay loam.—1884.

50. **Outlines.**—Undulating country, about one-half covered with poplar bluffs and willow clumps, the timber of which is generally small. Numerous ponds and swamps are scattered throughout the township, on the west side of which they are more abundant and of larger area than in the interior. The soil is good, being a black loam, from 12 to 15 inches, a clay or clay loam on subsoil.—1884.

51. **Outlines.**—**West.**—The country is scrubby. Numerous lakes and ponds. **East.**—Also scrubby prairie, except about half of Section 25, which is bush. A creek in Section 13, a lake in 24, and small ponds generally distributed.—1883.

Range 17.

47. **Outlines.**—Slightly undulating, with many ponds and swamps, and scattered with bluffs of poplar and willows. Soil, first class.—1883.

48. **Outlines.**—**North.**—Good prairie, with scrub and bush. Numerous marshes. In Section 36 a cart trail crosses the line.—1883. Soil, first class. Similar to Township 47.—1883.

GRAND TRUNK PACIFIC RAILWAY

TOWNSHIPS WEST OF FOURTH MERIDIAN—*Continued.*

Town-
ship.

49. **Outlines.**—Undulating country, interspersed with numerous grass swamps, thick clumps of willow and poplar bluffs of small sized timber. The soil is a rich clay or sand loam, having, for a subsoil, clay or sand, and rated first class.—1884.
50. **Outlines.**—Almost level country, with scattered bluffs of small poplar and clumps of small thick willows. Timber is very small, and unfit for buildings of any kind. Hay swamps are numerous and the soil first class. This township is well adapted for farming purposes, and contains some choice sections.—1884.
51. **Outlines.**—Beaver Lake submerges the west of this township, and the country along the east is scrubby, with numerous lakes and ponds.—1883.

Range 18.

48. **Outlines.**—The northerly tier of sections have a soil of first class quality, being a black mould on a subsoil of clay or sandy loam. There are numerous swamps and small lakes, some of which are alkaline. There is a considerable quantity of poplar, some of which is of good size.—1883.
Is undulating, and thickly interspersed with swamps and patches of willows. In the east half is a large quantity of poplar. A lake encroaches on the east side, and covers two sections. Soil, first class.—1883.
49. **Outlines.**—Generally level country, thickly dotted with bluffs of poplar, some of which are of considerable area. Willow clumps are numerous, and fringe the many ponds and swamps which are scattered throughout the township. The soil is a black loam, varying from 10 to 15 inches in depth; clay and, in places, sand loam subsoil.—1884.
50. **Outlines.**—Slightly undulating country, thickly dotted with dense willow clumps and bluffs of small sized poplar. The northern part of the township is broken by Beaver Lake, while the whole of it is well drained by a medium sized creek which flows north nearly through the centre of the range. The timber is small, though occasional bluffs are met with containing timber of fair size. This is a first class township, and well adapted for farming purposes. The soil is excellent, being a black loam, from 7 to 18 inches in depth, having a subsoil of clay.—1884.
51. **Outlines.**—Is entirely in Beaver Lake, with the exception of a narrow strip of land varying from one-half to one mile in width, lying along the westerly boundary. Several of these broken sections have settlers upon them, who find the soil to be of first class quality and well adapted for farming purposes. Three fair sized creeks enter the lake within a short distance of each other in this township, and abound in fish.—1884.
52. **Sub-division.**—The east part of the township is covered by Beaver Lake; the balance is thickly covered with dense grey willows, poplar and fallen timber. A creek crosses the line in the southern part of Section 30. The soil is excellent.—1883.

Range 19.

48. **Outlines.**—North.—Prairie, with clumps of bush and numerous ponds and sloughs. A large lake covers the western half of Section 35.—1883.

GRAND TRUNK PACIFIC RAILWAY

TOWNSHIPS WEST OF FOURTH MERIDIAN—*Continued.*

Town-
ship.

In the interior is a large lake. The land is undulating, with many ponds and marshes. Alkali is noticeable in low spots. There are many scattered bluffs of poplar. Soil, first class.—1883.

49. **Outlines.**—Is broken by the Beaver Hills, which traverse its eastern boundary and extend well into the centre. The rest of the township is undulating country, with bluffs of poplar and clumps of willows, the timber of which becomes heavier in the Beaver Hills. A cart trail runs north and south, nearly through the middle of the range, and connects the telegraph trail with a small settlement on the western shore of Beaver Lake. The soil is excellent, being a vegetable mould, from 10 to 15 inches in depth, with a clay subsoil.—1884.
50. **Outlines.**—Undulating country, more or less covered with timber of fair size, especially towards the western boundary, which is altogether in the Beaver Hills. Ponds and swamps are numerous, the margins of which are fringed with thick willows, and when the water becomes low excellent hay land is afforded. A cart trail runs from north to south, almost in the centre of the range, connecting the small settlement on the west shore of Beaver Lake with the telegraph trail. Soil is excellent, and classes 1 and 2.—1884.
51. **Outlines.**—Lies on the easterly slope of the Beaver Hills; is well wooded, and excellently drained by three fair sized creeks, which run easterly into Beaver Lake. Numerous ponds and swamps were noticed containing—in dry weather—excellent hay lands. Soil, first class.—1884.
52. **Outlines.**—The eastern third is on the slope of the Beaver Hills. There is a growth of dense grey willows, poplar and fallen timber. A creek crosses the east line in the southern part of Section 25.—1883.
53. **Sub-division.—North.**—The line runs through part of the Beaver Hills. Timber consists of poplar, spruce, birch and grey willow. A large marsh was crossed in Section 34. The hills range from 10 to 70 feet high. To the east there is small clumps of willows. The land lies low, and rates classes 2 to 4. To the west the township is heavily timbered with poplar and spruce, and the soil is poor. Most of the timber is small, but some of it in the south-west sections measures 12 to 30 inches. There is a good area of surface water, but not in the quantity of numbers of the neighboring townships.—1883.

Range 20.

49. **Outlines.**—Is entirely in the Beaver Hills, and is much broken by muskegs, ponds and lakes, some of which are of large area. The timber is poplar, from 2 to 10 inches in diameter, with a fair sprinkling of small birch. Spruce was noticed in the vicinity of some of the larger lakes, but not in large quantities. The soil is of a sandy nature, with an inch or two of vegetable mould lying on the surface. It has been classed three, on account of the numerous muskegs and its generally broken surface.—1884.
50. **Outlines.**—Is entirely in the Beaver Hills, and consists of rolling to undulating country, timbered with a dense growth of small poplar and birch. Spruce occurs in patches on the borders of the numerous muskegs which abound in this country; but no large belts of this timber were noticed. The

GRAND TRUNK PACIFIC RAILWAY

TOWNSHIPS WEST OF FOURTH MERIDIAN—*Continued.*

Town-
ship.

poplar and birch timber varies from 1 to 3 inches diameter, but stands so closely together that quite a great deal of extra cutting had to be done in order to produce the lines carefully. The soil is of fair quality, but the country is so much broken by ponds and muskegs that it has been classified 2 and 3.—1884.

51. This township was at one time a part of a timber reserve, but fires have destroyed the timber. East part is rolling; the west level. There are a number of hay sloughs and a number of large lakes.
53. Sub-division.—This township is heavily timbered with poplar and some spruce. The soil, generally, is poor, and class 3. There are several large lakes and a number of smaller ones, besides swamps and muskegs.—1883.

Range 21.

49. Outlines.—The south-west one-quarter is rather open country, broken by lakes and ponds, and thickly dotted with poplar bluffs and large sized willow clumps. The telegraph line is located through the extreme south-west corner, and the Hay Lakes trail traverses that part of the township also. Heavy poplar timber, with small birch and some spruce, cover the balance of the township. There are some large sheets of water here, along the margin of which some spruce was noticed. Muskegs numerous. The soil ranks second and third class.—1884.
50. Outlines.—Hilly country, much broken by ponds and lakes, around which a fair amount of good spruce was noticed. The timber is much heavier at the west side of the range than it is at the east, probably on account of the westerly portion being much broken by large sheets of water. This township is altogether in the Beaver Hills, and is class 3.—1884.
51. The land in this township is rough and hilly and broken in some places, making it very difficult to move carts or waggon. This township is in the Beaver Hills; the alluvial soil is light, but supports a fair growth of grass and is suitable for cattle or live stock raising, as there are numerous hay sloughs.—1898.
52. Part of this township is greatly broken by numerous lakes, less or more large, especially its south-eastern part by Cooking Lake and three others, one of them being considered larger, which at a time undoubtedly all belonged to Cooking Lake. The soil, classified as second class, could be in a short time and with very little labor prepared for cultivation, except perhaps in its south part, where the brush gets thicker. The surface is generally undulating and rolling, still the eastern boundary runs through a rolling, hilly and broken country, scattered with windfalls. The ponds and lakes are good fresh water. Hay along Cooking Lake shore, especially in the bays, grows thick and in good nutritive condition.—1908.
53. Sub-division.—Lies in the Beaver Hills. Is wooded with large and small poplar, fallen timber, grey willow and scrub. There is not much surface water, and the soil is very light.—1883.

Range 22.

50. Outlines.—West.—Undulating, with poplar bush. Line crosses a creek in Section 19 and a cart trail in 30. Water is very plentiful, large bodies of clear water being crossed in every section.—1884.

GRAND TRUNK PACIFIC RAILWAY

TOWNSHIPS WEST OF FOURTH MERIDIAN—Continued.

Town-
ship.

Undulating to hilly country, much broken by lakes, ponds and muskegs. In the vicinity of the Hay Lakes trail, fine prairie openings exist. The timber is poplar, birch and spruce, the first named being much more abundant than the others. Willow grows to a wonderful magnitude in this country. This township has been classed 3.—1884.

51. **Outlines.**—Sections 6 and 7, scrub and brulé, with a little spruce; 31, 30, 19 and the north of 18 are heavily timbered with poplar, interspersed with spruce. Creeks were crossed in 6, 30 and 31, and a small lake in 19. A large lake submerges the south half of 18 and part of 7.—1882-83.
52. **Outlines.**—**North.**—Heavily wooded. Old Man's Creek crosses the line in Section 33; branches of it in Sections 31 and 32. In Section 34 a marsh was crossed, and in 35 a creek. The soil is light, and class 3.—1883.
West.—Heavy timber, except the north half of Section 6 and the south of 7, which are scrubby. Section 6 is broken by two good sized lakes. Soil, of a light character.—1883.
53. **Sub-division.**—Is on the western limit of the Beaver Hills. Soil, light, and class 3. Timber small, fit for fuel only, and surrounded by a dense willow growth. Water is scarce. In Sections 6, 7 and 31 is some good building poplar, spruce and fallen timber. Other sections are scrubby. Creeks cross the west line in Sections 31 and 19, and Old Man's Creek 4, 5, 6 and 7. From Section 30 the Edmonton trail crosses the north-west.—1882.

Range 23.

50. **Outlines.**—**East.**—Undulating with poplar bush. Line crosses a creek in Section 24, and a cart trail in 25. Water is very plentiful, large bodies of clear water being crossed in every section.—1884.
51. **Outlines.**—**North.**—Bush and scrub, with a few prairie openings. The line crosses creeks in Sections 32 and 36, and ponds and marshes in all the sections except 36.—1883.
West.—Poplar bush and scrub. Lakes were crossed in Sections 6 and 18; ponds in 18, 19, and 30; marshes in 31; and the trail from Edmonton to Hay Lakes in the north half of 31. The easterly two-thirds of the township is in the Beaver Hills, and is heavily timbered with poplar, interspersed with spruce. Creeks were crossed in Sections 1, 25 and 36, and a small lake in 24. A large lake submerges the south half of 13 and part of 12.—1882-83.
52. **Outlines.**—**North.**—Large poplar, fir, cottonwood, willow and fallen timber. Water was found in every section, and a trail crossed in Section 32.—1882.
West.—Bush and scrub, with a few prairie openings. Creeks in Sections 6, 19 and 30. Many marshes and ponds, and in 31 the Fort Saskatchewan trail. **East.**—Is heavily timbered, except the north half of Section 1 and the south of 12, which are scrubby. **South.**—Bush and scrub, with a few prairie openings. The line crosses creeks in Sections 1 and 5, and ponds and marshes in all the sections except 1. A little brulé was found in Section 6.—1883.
Sub-division.—The easterly two-thirds lies in the Beaver Hills. Is covered with a dense growth of poplar and willow, with some spruce bluffs, and here and there a small tamarac swamp. The soil is about second class, excepting in parts of the township where the fire has burnt away the alluvial surface. Small ponds of good water are numerous.—1882.

TOWNSHIPS WEST OF FOURTH MERIDIAN—Continued.

Town-
ship.

53. Sub-division.—The North Saskatchewan crosses circuitously from Section 6 to 34, and the Edmonton trail from 6 to 24. The western and northern parts of this township are covered with bluffs of poplar and birch, suitable for fencing, and in many cases building material may be had. The Beaver Hills commence at Section 5, and cover the south-east part of the township. Good timber is found here. Water throughout is excellent. Soil, black loam, with clay subsoil. It is in every way well adapted for settlement.—1882.

Range 25.

52. Outlines.—East and South.—Prairie, with a rich black loam soil. Class 1, mostly covered with bluffs of small poplar and clumps of willow; also spruce, from 8 to 20 inches in diameter, in north of Sections 24 and 12. Sections 25 and 36 are broken by the North Saskatchewan River, which is crossed in both. Small marshes, and ponds in 1 and 13; Pigeon Lake trail in north of 13, and small creeks in 1 and 12, were intersected.—1882.

Sub-division.—Is nearly all covered with poplar and willow, but has some tamarac and spruce of fair size. It is broken by the Saskatchewan River, which runs diagonally across from the south-west to the north-east, and numerous small creeks and coulees emptying into it on the north side, and the White Mud Creek flowing into it from the south. The soil is sandy loam. The Edmonton settlement touches the township on the east side.—1883.

53. Sub-division.—Is broken by a number of lakes and marshes, and has, in the southern portion, a shaking bog, some miles square, covered with small tamarac. The soil in some portions, particularly along the trail between Edmonton and St. Albert, is very good, while in other parts it is somewhat sandy. The wood is principally poplar and willow, with some birch and spruce. St. Albert settlement occupies the north-west, and borders on Big Lake, a body of water about six miles long, which enters the township here. The soil in this vicinity is second class. In the south there is some first class soil in Sections 1 and 2. The remainder of the line is third and fourth class, being a low tamarac swamp. In the east the soil is a second and third class sandy loam and clay soil, covered with poplar and willow bluffs. Numerous small marshes were crossed.—1882.

Range 26.

51. Sub-division.—Well timbered with poplar, and broken by a few lakes and many muskegs. The North Saskatchewan River passes through a portion of the south part, entering on Section 3 and coursing east, about a quarter of a mile north of the Correction Line, and passing out on Section 1, to enter it again on the east boundary, along which the river courses for a mile before leaving. The soil of the township is generally sandy, and not suited for settlement.—1883.

52. Sub-division.—This township is rolling prairie, timbered with thick willow and small poplar, with some tamarac and spruce in the west and south-west. Soil, sandy loam in the north and rates from first to second class. Other parts alternate with some second class between third and fourth class, in many places being a pure sand. The western part of 36 is brûlé, fallen timber and dense scrub. The surface is broken by marshes of considerable extent, and by small ponds. Sand Lake, on Sections 14, 15, 22

TOWNSHIPS WEST OF FOURTH MERIDIAN—*Continued.*

Town-
ship.

and 23, is a fine body of fresh water, and is said by the Indians to afford good pike fishing.—1882.

53. Sub-division.—Rolling prairie, timbered in the north with poplar, willow and spruce, interspersed with patches of prairie. Soil, second and third class. In the west, timbered with large poplar, tamarac and spruce, with clumps of willow and patches of open prairie. Soil, third and fourth class alluvial soil, 16 inches deep, with clay and sandy subsoils. In the east, there are poplars and high willows, scattered around the tamarac and spruce swamps. Soil, second and third class. The southern portion is of second class quality. Adjoining this, and south and west of Big Lake, is a large tract of swampy land. North of the lake the land is good, and is occupied by the St. Albert Settlement. Big Lake covers about three thousand acres. The water is shallow and brackish.—1882.

Range 27.

50. This township is thickly wooded with poplar and willow. The poplar is of ordinary size, not suitable for lumbering purposes. A number of creeks run through this township, the most prominent being Conjuring Creek, which enters the township in Section 1 and runs northerly at Section 11. The banks are two hundred and fifty feet high. The North Saskatchewan River enters in Section 30 and leaves in 36. The soil is a light sandy loam averaging about ten inches in depth, with a subsoil of sand. Numerous seams of coal were seen along the beds of the creeks, also the Saskatchewan River.
51. This township is about two-thirds wooded, with poplar and scattering spruce, while the other third is meadow land. A number of lakes are scattered on this township, the depth of water in most of them is from ten to twenty-five feet. Beautiful springs of water were to be seen all over the township. The soil is sandy loam with sand subsoil. This township is unfit for agricultural purposes.
52. Sub-division.—The land along the trail from Edmonton to Whitefish Lake, in the north-eastern part of the township, is of good quality. The southern portion is much broken by small ponds and marshes. There is some large spruce in the south-west, but not sufficient for lumbering purposes.—1882.
53. Sub-division.—Much of it is tamarac and spruce swamp; timber very thick, but of poor quality. Soil, in the swamps, is coarse sand; that of the upland is of fair quality. Alluvial deposit, from 6 to 10 inches in depth, with clay loam subsoil. The Indian Reserve occupies Sections 25 to 28 and 33 to 36 and parts of 29 and 32.—1882.
54. Sub-division.—Mostly in the Indian Reserve which occupies all except the westerly tier and half tier of Sections. It is well timbered with spruce and poplar, suitable for building. The country is hilly. Soil, class 2. Water plentiful. The Lake St. Ann trail crosses here. The Sturgeon River crosses to the north.—1883.

Range 28.

50. Outlines.—Densely wooded with poplar and willows, and there is abundance of water. Good sized marshes were crossed and, in Section 12, a creek, which flows northward, through a deep coulee, timbered with poplar, till

GRAND TRUNK PACIFIC RAILWAY

TOWNSHIPS WEST OF FOURTH MERIDIAN—Continued.

Town-
ship.

It enters the North Saskatchewan River, which crosses the township. Another tributary of this river flows south-westerly from a tamarac muskeg. In the north of Section 36 is a larger muskeg, bordered with tamarac and spruce. Alluvial soil, 6 inches of sandy loam; subsoil, clay. Class 3.—1884.

51. **Outlines.**—Rolling and undulating country, densely wooded with poplar. Some willows and scattered spruce and tamarac muskegs occur at intervals, one of which extends across the entire width of Section 1. Most of the land is rated class 3, the soil being a sandy loam, 6 inches deep, on a clay subsoil.—1884.
52. **Sub-division.**—Fractional township. Only consists of two-thirds of the easterly tier of sections. Surface, rolling. Soil, good; water plentiful; timbered with spruce and poplar bluffs.—1883.
53. **Sub-division.**—Fractional township. Only consists of about the easterly tier of sections. Surface, rolling. Soil, good; heavily timbered.—1883.
54. **Sub-division.**—Fractional township. Only consists of about the easterly tier of sections. Surface, very hilly. Soil, class 2. Water plentiful.—1883.

TOWNSHIPS WEST OF FIFTH MERIDIAN.

Range 1.

50. **West.**—Parts of Sections 7, 18 and 19 are muskegs; remaining portions of the line lie in a bush country. Sections 30 and 31 are broken by the North Saskatchewan River and valley.—1884.

East.—In Sections 1 and 12, a valley and a winding creek, with a northerly course. In 12 and 13, tamarac and alder swamps; then the North Saskatchewan River and valley, swampy on the north side. All the aforesaid country is more or less densely wooded with poplar, but north of this is more scattered. Soil, 4 to 6 inches of sandy loam, generally class 3.—1882-83.

51. **West.**—Spruce, with thick poplar. Broken by marshes and clear water ponds. In Section 19 a small stream crosses the line twice.—1883.

The country along the east boundary is wooded, generally with poplar, but belts of spruce occur at intervals, usually on the borders of swamps. The greater portion of Section 36 is covered by a large lake. The soil consists of sandy loam, 6 inches in depth, over clay, and the land is rated class 3.—1882.

52. **North.**—Rolling and level country. Poplar, spruce, tamarac and willow. Section 36 is almost entirely covered by a large marsh.—1882-83.

West.—High and broken, overgrown with young poplar. Line crosses several ponds and marshes, and in Section 6 a little brûlé.—1883.

The country along the east boundary is undulating in the north and rolling in the south. It is generally overgrown with willow or poplar scrub, through which are scattered poplar trees. In the north of Section 1 is some thick spruce, bordering on a large lake, a portion of which ex-

GRAND TRUNK PACIFIC RAILWAY

TOWNSHIPS WEST OF FIFTH MERIDIAN—Continued.

Town-
ship.

tends into the south-east corner of this township. Alluvial soil, 6 inches of sandy loam; subsoil, clay. Class 3.—1882-83.

53. **West**.—Broken with poplar and scrub. Line crosses a large pond in Section 19, and an extensive marsh and creek in 30. Soil, sandy loam.—1883.

East.—Prairie, much broken in northern half by hills, ponds and marshes, covered with poplar, tamarac and spruce, intermingled with small patches of scrubby prairie. Soil, a sandy loam, overlaying a clay subsoil. Classes 1 to 4. Numerous tributaries of Dog Creek were intersected along this line.—1882.

54. **West**.—Undulating, with sandy loam soil, overgrown with willows and poplar. In Section 6 line crosses two creeks; in 19 an extensive marsh, and in the south half of 31 a small marsh and the trail to Lac Ste. Anne.—1883.

East.—Rolling in northern half, but much broken in south by hills, ponds and marshes; heavily timbered with poplar, with spruce in places. A small creek, running through a deep ravine in Section 13, and another traversing a marsh in 36, were intersected.—1882.

55. **East**.—Country with a rolling surface, except Section 36, which is rough and broken. Timbered with heavy poplar and willow, also some spruce, interspersed with small patches of prairie. A cart trail from St. Albert to St. Anne and Sturgeon River in 6; small marshes in 25 and 1, and also a small lake in 13, were intersected. Soil, classes 2 and 3.—1882.

Range 2.

50. **East**.—Parts of Sections 12, 13 and 24 are muskegs; remaining portion of the line lies in a bush country. Sections 25 and 36 are broken by the North Saskatchewan River and valley. In south half of 25, a creek, flowing towards the river, crosses the line.—1884.

51. **East**.—Spruce and thick poplar. Many marshes and clear water ponds. In Section 24 a small stream crosses the line twice.—1883.

52. **North**.—Hilly and rolling country. Poplar, spruce and tamarac. Large lake submerges the greater part of Section 34. Line crosses extensive lakes in almost every section.—1882-83.

West.—High, open and rolling in south of Section 6. Greater part of 7 and 18 broken by a lake. A large lake submerges all the south half of 31, and about half of the north of 30. Bush in 6, 19 and 30. Trail in 1, and muskeg in 36. The alluvial soil, where any exists, is sandy loam over clay. **East**.—High and broken; overgrown with young poplar. Line crosses several ponds and marshes.—1883.

53. This township is hilly and broken in many places. The soil is poor with the exception of the sections adjoining the large spruce and tamarac swamps, which crosses this township from section 7 to section 25. A large quantity of very good timber such as spruce and tamarac is found in that swamp, and in different places through the township. The timber is large and varies from 8 to 18 and 20 inches in diameter. The logs could be floated in the large brook flowing into Matchayan Lake and from there into Sturgeon River. The country from there is partly opened, and the settlement of Spruce Grove and Stoney Plain can easily be reached.—1898.

TOWNSHIPS WEST OF FIFTH MERIDIAN—Continued.

Town-
ship.

54. The westerly and south-westerly half of the township is somewhat hilly, and is covered with a heavy growth of poplar, cottonwood, spruce and birch 8 to 18 inches in diameter. The easterly portion has been burnt over. Sections 4, 5, 6, 7, 8 and 9 and the westerly portion of 19 are very hilly. The remainder of the bush portion could make fairly good agricultural land if cleared. In the same portion the north half of 33, sections 34, 35, 36, 27 and the north halves of sections 25 and 26 would make fairly good agricultural land. The remainder of the township is not of much value for agricultural purposes.—1898.

55. In the southern portion including the first two rows of sections from 1 to 12, and along the Sturgeon River the land would make fair agricultural land. The timber has generally been destroyed and poplar and willow scrub is now growing up. The south half of sections 16, 17, 18 are also fairly good land as well as the southerly portion of sections 13, 14 and 15; the latter, however, are broken by muskegs. Sections 19, 21, 22, 28, 29 and 30 are badly broken by large muskegs with intervening ridges covered with poplar and cottonwood 8 to 10 inches in diameter. The spruce in these muskegs is generally small, but there is a grove of very fine spruce in sections 19 and 30, considerable of which is fully 18 inches in diameter. The green bush extends north to the southerly part of sections 31 and 32, after which the country has been burnt over, and is also badly broken by muskegs. The greater portion of sections 33 and 34 have been burnt over, and the land is not of much value for agricultural purposes.

In sections 26, 27, 35 and the east side of 34, spruce, poplar and cottonwood of good size is found along Toad Creek in sections 13, 14, 22 and 23. The timber has generally been destroyed by fire. Poplar and willow scrub is now growing up. Around Toad Lake in sections 27 and 28 considerable hay is found; owing, however, to the miry condition of the marsh, only a small proportion, probably about one-quarter of it can be cut.

The hay marsh extends north-easterly along Toad Creek about one mile. Toad Lake is now very shallow, and is drying up rapidly. There is also another Lake in sections 15 and 16. It is also very shallow and drying up. A hay trail passes this Lake going northerly to Toad Lake, and north-easterly joining the trail from St. Ann to Edmonton N. N.E. 6, Township 55, Range 55, 5th Meridian. Another hay trail follows Toad Creek from Toad Lake to the trail from St. Ann to Edmonton. Coal outcrops on the Sturgeon River in section 9. It has been used by Mr. De Fovenet, a squatter in township 54, range 2, who says it is equal to that mined at Edmonton.—1898.

Range 3.

50. Is on the south side of the North Saskatchewan River with the exception of Section 31, and parts of 29, 30 and 32. The river enters from the west in Sections 30 and 31, flowing west to the centre of 29, where it turns sharply to the north and passes out in Sections 31 and 32. Heavily wooded, over its entire area, with spruce, poplar and cottonwood. Country is rolling and fairly watered by small creeks, the largest of which might possibly be used for driving logs. This creek enters the river in the south-west quarter of Section 29. Soil is clay and clay loam. The river banks on the south side are high and steep, and in Section 29 contain a coal seam of considerable size.—1884-85.

51. The greater portion is on the north side of the North Saskatchewan River, which enters the township from the south-west quarter of Section 5, flows

GRAND TRUNK PACIFIC RAILWAY

TOWNSHIPS WEST OF FIFTH MERIDIAN—Continued.

Town-
ship.

north, and passes out in Sections 24 and 25. Country is rolling and heavily wooded with large spruce, poplar and cottonwood, and is traversed by many small creeks. Soil is clay and loam. White Whale River, the only one which can be used for floating logs, enters the river from the north (Section 25). The river banks are high and steep and, in many places, perpendicular or cut banks occur. In Section 27 a 4-foot coal seam is exposed (north of the river). In Section 23—south side—there are two seams 3½ feet each, and in Nos. 25 and 5, 4-foot seams crop out.—1885.

52. North—Rolling and level country. Brulé and windfall; spruce and poplar. A creek crosses the line once in Section 36, and seven times in 35. Marshes in 31, 32, 34, 35 and 36, the latter being very large.—1882-83.

West—Heavy spruce. Line crosses a trail in Section 7, and the White Whale River in 31. This river drains White Whale Lake, which submerges the greater part of the north half of Section 31. East—High, open and rolling in south of Section 1. Greater part of 12 and 13 broken by a lake. A large lake submerges all the south half of 36, and about half of the north of 25. Bush in 1, 24 and 25. Trail in 1, and muskeg in 36. The alluvial soil, where any exists, is sandy loam over clay.—1884.

53. The south half of the township is rolling and hilly, and the soil is second class. Rather more than half of this portion of the township has within recent years been destroyed by fire, leaving belts of green timber. On the south and west sides of the township there are a few prairie openings, and the country is generally more open. The north half of the township is low and wet, but near the north boundary the ground is higher. The soil in this portion is either third or fourth class. Some quarter sections sufficiently open for immediate settlement may be obtained on the west side of the township and along a creek running in a south-easterly direction from 17 to section 2. The waggon trail from Lake St. Anne to the Indian Reserve in township 52, range 3, crosses the south-west corner of the township.—1900.

54. With the exception of a portion of sections 17 and 18 and a fringe in the neighborhood of Lake St. Anne, none of the township is much use for agricultural purposes. Generally speaking, it is fairly well covered with timber, some of which is 8 to 18 inches in diameter.

55. The township is easy of access. The public road reaches the east end of Lake St. Anne a few chains south of section 2, thence there is a road going northwards through the whole length reaching its north boundary in section 34. The subsoil is composed of sandy clay in most cases, decayed moss and other vegetable matters being found in the muskegs. The top soil black loam has an average depth of a few inches; that part of the ground not covered by muskegs is good for farming.

In no place can the surface be called rough and hilly, though there is a ridge following the north of Lake St. Anne. The rest of the township is rolling and slightly rolling. The township is heavily timbered except in the south-east and south-west corners where it is scrubby, and covered with a new growth of timber, the only open places being in the hay sloughs. The area of the muskegs is from one-sixth to one-eighth of the township. Several hundred tons of hay can be cut throughout the township. The water in the lakes is putrid, and not fit to drink.—1904.

TOWNSHIPS WEST OF FIFTH MERIDIAN—Continued.

Town-
ship.

Range 1.

50. Is nearly equally divided by the North Saskatchewan River, which enters from the west, in the north-west quarter of Section 18, runs a little north of west and passes out in the north-east quarter of Section 25. Heavy woods, composed of spruce, cottonwood, poplar and tamarac, cover the township. General character is rolling, fairly watered by small creeks; very few lakes occur. Soil is heavy clay. A large creek, the outlet of Shoal Lake, enters the river from the north, after passing through the south-west quarter of Section 21. This creek may be used for driving logs. In the south bank of the river, Section 15, a large coal seam is exposed for about 5 chains. Its thickness cannot easily be ascertained as the bottom is under water, and the top 15 feet above low water mark. Seams were found in Sections 23 and 35, the latter being worked for household purposes. North of the river, seams that have been set on fire by lightning or bush fires are seen in many places.—1884-85.

West—Rolling country. Two creeks in 18. Muskegs in 6 and 31. White Whale Lake submerges the greater part of Section 31. Bush all along the line. Soil, sandy loam over clay. Class 3. East—Heavy spruce. Line crosses a trail in Section 7, and the White Whale River in 36. This river drains White Whale Lake, which submerges the greater part of the north of the township. Soil, sandy loam over clay. Class 3.—1883.

51. The principal features in Low Water Lake, situated in the western part, and extending north and south, mostly through the whole depth of the township, 50 chains only, of the western boundary of section 31, being out of water.

The soil is a coat of 6 inches of black loam over a clay subsoil. However, towards the south for the depth of two sections, the soil is mostly sandy loam. The whole of the township is suitable for farming. The country is slightly hilly towards the north, but the remainder is heavy rolling with good patches of level ground. The three northern miles is thickly wooded, but from there south many patches of prairie and small poplar or scrub offer good chances for prompt settlement. The timber is mostly poplar, but there is some good spruce along the north boundary and also a good amount of it along eastern boundary of sections 6 and 7. The water is good in lakes and sloughs and creeks. There are no water powers. Poplar is the fuel mostly available all over the township, but more abundant toward the north. I have heard that along the Saskatchewan, not far south, coal is available.—1904.

52. North—Submerged by White Whale Lake, except about 10 chains in the extreme east of Section 36, which is scrubby.—1882-83.

53. Nearly all the timber in this township has been destroyed by fire. For agricultural purposes nearly the whole of the township rates third and fourth class, as it is generally very rolling with numerous swamps and muskegs. The soil is light and on the ridges gravelly. In a dry season a considerable quantity of hay can be cut around Whitewood Lake. The water in the lake is very good.

In the southern part sections 16, 17 and 18 are the best. Sections 7 and 8 and the northern part of sections 9 and 10 are useless for farming purposes, as they are broken by deep gullies and ravines. Several small creeks flow out of these gullies, but the water is not good, being apparently impregnated with some mineral.—1903.

GRAND TRUNK PACIFIC RAILWAY

TOWNSHIPS WEST OF FIFTH MERIDIAN—Continued.

Town-
ship.

54. This township is rolling and mostly covered with timber from 6 to 8 inches in diameter, partly burnt over. In the southern part of the township there are numerous swamps and two small lakes with marshy shores. The land is rated 3rd and 4th class, having only from 3 to 8 inches of black loam with clay subsoil in the flats. The hills and ridges are light and stony.—1903.

55. The public road reaches the east end of Lake Ste. Anne in summer, along the north shore for a couple of miles, then a wagon road that goes to section 6 after going through Alexis Indian Reserve—section 36 is reached by a wagon road going northerly from the Indian Reserve. The soil is good for farming the pits show, except of course in muskegs and sandy clay subsoil covered by a few inches of black loam. Stones are apt to be found in the ground on the ridges.

The surface is rolling throughout the township, but no high ridges or steep hills were found. Fire has raged over the township, and the only timbered parts which have fair sized poplar are a strip a couple of miles wide on the western part of the township, and along the north boundary of the Reserve, and in that part of the township lying west of the Reserve. In this latter part the timber is only in patches. The rest of the township is covered with a new growth of timber; dry wood standing and fallen is found throughout the township.

With the exception of a very few spruce and tamarac big enough for logs, and a few bunches of the same timber but of smaller size, the timber found is poplar of good size in the places above described. The rest of the timber is small poplar and scrub.

Marsh hay is found in the muskegs. There is some hay growing in the open spaces, but it is poor. The water found in the little lakes of the township is not fit to drink. The only creek of any consequence is in section 6; it was almost dry at the end of August. There is no water power.

The climate seems to be somewhat warmer than that of Edmonton. Few balsam trees and jackpines are found and wild gooseberries and red currants.

The most ready available fuel is the dry wood scattered throughout the township. No minerals and no rock were found. Ducks are plentiful in the lakes; partridges are seen occasionally.—1906.

56. The soil is a dark loam overlying a clay subsoil, and seems to be a good fertile soil suitable for all kinds of crops. The surface is rolling and covered with timber of scrub. The timber is poplar and spruce up to 20 inches in diameter. About one-half of the surface has been burnt over, and a large proportion of the timber is dead, and some of it fallen.

There is little hay except in marshy places, and around the south end of Old Man's Lake. Water is abundant in ponds and small streams tributary to the creek, which flows into the lakes. All water is fresh and good. The climate seems favorable with few indications of summer frosts. There are no indications of coal.—1906.

Range 5.

50. This township is accessible by a good wagon trail from Edmonton via Me-wassin. The township presents a very rough appearance owing to the high rough banks of Saskatchewan River valley, which passes through it. Owing to this roughness and also to the fact that the black loam covering it ranges in depth only from three to five inches, with a subsoil on the higher

GRAND TRUNK PACIFIC RAILWAY

TOWNSHIPS WEST OF FIFTH MERIDIAN—Continued.

Town-
ship

places of clay and in the valleys of sand, this township is not suitable for agricultural purposes. Moreover, the scarcity of hay and the presence of muskegs in the northerly portion are other features which spoil it for the farmer. One commendable feature is the presence of good water, though there are no water-powers; another is the beauty of the climate, which closely resembles that of the Edmonton district. In the south-western portion of the township, spruce timber up to two feet in diameter, and of a second grade quality, is found, a goodly portion of which has been cut and was being cut at the time of the survey. Also throughout the township poplar trees abound which are and will be the chief supply of fuel, though there is a likelihood of coal being discovered in the near future. Regarding stone quarries and minerals of economic values there are none, and the game found is of no consequence.—1904.

51. The soil with a few exceptions is a coat of black loam 3 to 6 inches deep, with a clay subsoil. The ground is hilly in the north-eastern section, and the middle part of the township heavy rolling, while the south-eastern sections are comparatively easy rolling. There are a few hay sloughs of any extent. The water was good where found. The climate is the same as in the vicinity of Edmonton, but the snow is slightly deeper in winter.—1904.
52. Rolling and hilly, thickly wooded. The south half adjoining Wabamun Lake and the east half of the township is very good land for agricultural purposes. The soil is clay loam or sandy loam, well watered by small lakes and several creeks of good and clear water, which run all season even in a dry summer. Wabamun Lake is a very large sheet of water, 12 miles long and 2 miles broad. It abounds in fish of different kinds. Coal was found on the north-west half of section 35.—1904.
53. The south-west corner is in Island Lakes, and the south-east corner in Wabamun Lake. White fish are plentiful in the lakes, and fishing is part of the revenue of the surrounding country. The soil is mostly a good coat of black loam over a clay subsoil, well adapted to farming. The surface is hilly, especially in the proximity of the lake. It is a timbered country, good poplar with some spruce 10 to 14 inches in diameter. Hay does not appear to be plentiful and few hay sloughs. Water is good wherever found.
54. Like all of this section of the country the soil is a coat of black loam 6 to 10 inches deep over a clay subsoil capable of producing good crops when cleared. The surface is heavy rolling. There is some poplar and some spruce, enough for building purposes. There are no hay sloughs of any consequence. Water is good in the lake, and wherever found elsewhere. The climate is the same as in Edmonton, and a little more snow in the winter.—1904.
55. There is a fairly good wagon road which leaves the trail from Lake Ste. Anne to Donald McDonald's farm, at a point about half a mile east of Mr. McDonald's farm. This road runs north through the centre of townships 54, 55 and 56, range 5, ending in the northeast quarter of section 16, township 56, range 5. There is also a good road running from Lake Ste. Anne to McLeod River, which enters this township on the east boundary of section 1 and leaves it on the west boundary of section 18. The soil is fairly good, consisting of 6 to 8 inches of black loam over a sand or clay subsoil and is suitable for mixed farming. The surface is rolling and is

GRAND TRUNK PACIFIC RAILWAY

TOWNSHIPS WEST OF FIFTH MERIDIAN—Continued.

Town-
ship.

covered with brush and small poplar 3 to 8 inches in diameter. About 150 tons of hay could be put up around Little Island Lake in sections 7 and 8 and small quantities of upland hay could be cut in several small prairies in the northeastern part of the township. There is no timber of any value for lumber. The township is fairly well watered by five fair sized fresh water lakes which are permanent. Of these Lessard Lake in sections 26, 27, 34 and 35 and Little Island Lake in sections 7 and 8 are the most important. There is no land liable to be flooded. The climate is excellent and is similar to that of the Edmonton district. Wood for fuel is obtainable on every section, but no coal veins have been discovered. There are no stone quarries and no minerals of any economic value. There is very little game, but there is good pike fishing in Lessard Lake.—1906.

56. There is a fairly good road which leaves the trail from Lake Ste. Anne to Donald McDonald's farm at a point about half a mile east of Mr. McDonald's farm. This road runs north following the centre line of townships 54, 55 and 56, range 5, and terminates in the northeast quarter of section 16 of this township. The soil is good, consisting of 6 to 10 inches of black loam over a clay subsoil, and is suitable for mixed farming. The surface is undulating and is covered with brush and poplar 3 to 8 inches in diameter. In the east half of section 5 and in the west half of section 4, there is some good spruce timber 10 inches in diameter. There is very little hay. The water is fresh, but is not very plentiful, there being only one small permanent lake on the east boundary of section 26, but there are several small creeks containing fresh water with an average width of 3 to 4 feet and a depth of 6 to 18 inches. There is no land liable to be flooded. There is no way of obtaining water-power. The climate is excellent, being similar to that of the Edmonton district. Wood for fuel is obtainable on every section. There are no stone quarries and no minerals of any economic value. There is very little game.—1906.

Range 6.

50. The surface of the ground in this township is fairly level until nearing the river, where it is rolling and contains a fair amount of non-merchantable timber.—1904.
51. The soil is generally a fair coat of black loam over a clay bottom, suitable for all kinds of grains. There are quite a number of swamps. Surface generally heavy rolling country. Southern portion covered with a growth of small poplars easy to clear. The water when found was good. Climate same as Edmonton.—1904.
52. The main feature of this township is the chain of large swamps, which cut it off from the township south of it, and from which direction outside of sections 4, 5 and 6, the only way to get north is along the eastern boundary of section 1. The western boundary is also situated in a large swamp which extends nearly four miles from the southwest corner of section 6 to the northwest corner of section 9. The building of roads from the west, and especially from the south, will consequently be a heavy undertaking.

A pack trail partly opened by me, leads from the northwest corner to Gray's store on section 28, township 53, range 6, situated along the wagon road coming from the half breed settlement of Lake Ste. Anne.

GRAND TRUNK PACIFIC RAILWAY

TOWNSHIPS WEST OF FIFTH MERIDIAN—Continued.

Town-
ship.

At least half of the south third of the township is covered with muskegs; the remainder is a succession of ridges, turning into hills towards the north, the soil of which is a good coat of black loam over clay subsoil. It will be a good farming country when the bush is cleared from it. There are a few patches of light brush, but the country is mostly a bush country, lightly timbered towards the south, and the timber grows larger and denser going north until the base line is reached. Poplar is the main kind of wood, but good spruce and some jackpine is also found on nearly every section.

There are very few hay sloughs. There are no water-powers. The climate is the same as Edmonton.

Wood for fuel or building purposes is readily available all through the township. Coal exists in the neighboring townships. There are no stone quarries nor minerals.—1904.

53. Island Lake is the principal feature of this township.

The soil is generally a coat of black loam 6 to 8 inches deep over a clay subsoil, well suited for farming purposes.

The surface is heavy rolling, hilly in some parts and thickly wooded on the south side of Island Lake. On sections 28, 29, 30, 31, 32 and 33 there are large patches of prairie.

The remainder of these sections being covered with light brush only, which can be easily cleared.

The northern part of the township is certainly the most advantageous for immediate settlement.

As already said, south of the Lake, the country is thickly wooded. Poplar predominates, but spruce is met on nearly every section and along the Lake there is quite an amount of it, and it is good sized timber.

The west end of Island Lake is a large hay slough, capable of producing an immense quantity of hay, as well as the borders of Round Lake, where Mr. Gray cuts nearly all the hay he requires for his 20 horses and his cattle.

The water is good in Island Lake, Round Lake and wherever found elsewhere.

There is plenty of wood for fuel and building purposes for years to come, if used with judgment, and there is coal on township 53, range 5, joining on this one to the east.—1904.

54. The Pembina flows through the northwest corner of the township, and Island Lake cuts out part of the southeast corner of section 1.

The numerous swamps which are met all through, reduce considerably the farming area, but on solid ground the soil is a good coat of black loam over a clay subsoil promising good crops where the ground is cleared.

The country is heavy rolling with a few patches of prairie, especially on sections 5, 6 and 7. Clearing the land would be easy, and a few fires would in a short time make an open country where the bush now stands. A few tons of hay can be cut on section 6 and around the lakes and on sections 4 and 5. Water is good in Island Lake, in the river and wherever found elsewhere. The Pembina is a river averaging 3 to 5 chains wide, 3 feet deep with a current of about 4 miles an hour. It might be possible by building a dam near the boundary of section 19 to produce a 100 horse power.

Climate same as Edmonton.

Coal is found on the Pembina, 3 miles west of the southwest corner of the township.—1904.

TOWNSHIPS WEST OF FIFTH MERIDIAN—Continued.

Town-
ship.

55. The soil consists generally of black loam with a subsoil of clay or sandy clay. Stones are found only in a few pits. The soil is very good for farming. Almost all the quarter sections would rate either as class No. 1 or 2. The township is covered with poplar and willow. There are a few open spots in the eastern part. Spruce is scarce. There is no timber of consequence in the township. Jackpine is found only in a couple of spots. Spruce is found in several places, but only in small quantity, and always mixed with poplar. Most of it is less than 9 inches in diameter. As the township is timbered there are but few spots where hay is found. On sections 9 and 21 some hay could be made, though not many tons. The water is not alkaline. In some lakes (Prefontaine and No. 2) it is not fit to drink. There is no stream of importance. The biggest creek comes from the southeast and empties into lake No. 2. No water-power is available. The climate is something like that of Edmonton. The fuel most readily available is dry wood. It is quite plentiful. There are no coal veins known to me. There are no stone quarries or minerals.—1905.

56. The township is crossed by the road from Lac Ste. Anne to Paddle River. I understand that it is hardly in good enough condition to allow of wagons to travel over it. The soil is very good for agriculture. Three-fourths of the sections would rate as class No. 1. Gravel and stones are met with occasionally in the pits. The soil consists of black loam with a subsoil of clay or sandy clay. The township is well covered with timber which consists of big poplar and willow. There is birch scattered here and there. Spruce is scarce in the township. Some is seen along Deep Creek in some spots, and in the southeast corner of the township. There is very little hay to be made. The only place where hay is found is between Lakes Kelly and Hope, and in small quantity. The water of lake No. 1 is not fit to drink. The only creek of importance is Deep Creek, which is the outlet of lake No. 1. There is another creek running northerly in the northeastern part of the township. Deep Creek, on the east boundary of section 25, township 56, range 7, is 25 links wide. It was dry in January. The climate would probably be like that of Edmonton. Dry wood is very readily available. There are no stone quarries or minerals.—1905.

Range 7.

50. The easterly third of the township is rolling land, fairly open, with scattered poplar and underbrush. The soil is good and fit for agricultural purposes. In sections 11, 15, 16, 21 and 22 some heavy timber occurs, being spruce and poplar to 18 inches in diameter. This area is included in a timber limit. The balance of the township is covered with poplar and cottonwood from 6 to 14 inches in diameter. The soil is good, being on an average 4 inches of black loam on a clay subsoil. It would be suitable for farming after clearing the timber. This township is well watered by some large creeks, emptying into the Saskatchewan River. Hay is scarce, occurring only along the watercourses. The climate is similar to that of Edmonton.—1908.

51. This township is heavily wooded with poplar and cottonwood up to 16 inches in diameter. Spruce and tamarack are found in the muskegs, along with a few scattered spruce among the poplar bush. This timber is suitable for building purposes, but at present has no commercial value. The soil consists on an average of 4 inches of black loam on a clay or

TOWNSHIPS WEST OF FIFTH MERIDIAN—Continued.

Town-
ship.

sandy clay subsoil. If the country were cleared of the timber it would be fit for agricultural purposes; it is well watered by several large creeks running southeast and emptying into the Saskatchewan. The water is abundant and of good quality. Wood for fuel can be found on every quarter section. Hay is scarce and found only in small patches along the watercourses. The climate is similar to that of Edmonton.—1908.

52. The soil is chiefly clay. The surface is thickly timbered with poplar, cottonwood and spruce. Poplar is the only timber of value, there being a large quantity suitable for pulp making. There are no extensive hay areas. Several small streams of fresh water are found. Pembina River runs through this township. Its current is rapid but there are no falls. There is an abundance of wood for fuel, but no stone quarries nor minerals of economic value were observed.—1908.

53. The soil is mostly a good coat of black loam over a clay subsoil well adapted for farming. The surface is rolling wherever it is not affected by the Pembina and Lobstick, which form the principal topographical feature of the township. The valley of the Pembina is 200 to 250 feet deep and measures one-quarter to half a mile wide and the banks are very steep in some places. The valley of the Lobstick is about 100 to 150 feet deep, but it generally slopes gradually on one side, although it is very often quite abrupt.

There are, especially on the north third of the township, large spaces covered with small poplar easy to clear, with small open spaces covered only with scrub, but the country may be described as a heavy timbered country intercepted here and there towards the south with spaces covered with small poplars, the big timber getting lighter the further we go north, although almost every section contains a good quantity of poplar averaging 6 to 18 inches in diameter. Good spruce is also found along the river and the muskegs specially on sections 2, 3, 10 and 11, also on sections 26 and 27. There are many spruce swamps which considerably reduce the farming area.

Hay is found in a few sloughs, especially along the centre line on the east boundaries of 9 and 16 and also in the vicinity of Round Lake.

Water is good wherever found, but it was scarce in some parts this summer.

The Pembina, which as already said, is the main topographical feature of the township with the Lobstick, measures from 2 1-2 to 3 chains in width with an average depth of from 2 to 4 feet at low water, the current averages 4 to 7 miles an hour with many rapids, with the exception of the ends of points, the river will not overflow its banks.

The Lobstick River is 1 to 2 chains wide, 2 feet deep and all that has been said of the Pembina applies to it.

There is plenty of wood for fuel and coal is found along the Pembina, especially near the crossing of the north boundary of the township—1904.

54. The Pembina River runs through this township. Average width 3 to 5 chains with a depth of 2 to 4 feet at low water, and a current of about 5 miles an hour. There are a number of rapids but no regular falls. Valley is from one-half to three-quarters of a mile wide from top to top, and 250 feet deep. North of section 11 the banks recede, and when the river leaves the township, the ground on each side slopes gradually, and towards the river to a bank of 10 to 15 feet high. The bank of the river is stony in most places.

TOWNSHIPS WEST OF FIFTH MERIDIAN.—Continued.

Town-
ship.

The soil is a good coat of black loam over a clay subsoil, and well adapted to farming. The valley of the Pembina breaks the surface of the country. All the land situated east of it is rough and hilly except in section 24, where the ground is gently sloping towards the river. The western part of the township is much better. Towards the west the country is rolling and the bush is much lighter. There are large spaces where land could be easily cleared in a short time. There is good fuel all over the township, but not many hay sloughs.

A seam of coal about 54 feet deep runs for half a mile along the left bank of the Pembina, where it crosses the south boundary of section 3, and the men saw evidence of good coal along the north boundary of section 11.—1904.

55. The surface of this township west of Pembina River is nearly level, except for a couple of ravines in sections 16 and 21, in which streams of good water flow. Sections 29, 30, 31 and 32 are composed chiefly of swamps. All that portion of the township lying to the east of Pembina River is broken and hilly, except sections 25 and 36, which are somewhat gently rolling. The soil throughout consists of about 3 inches black loam with a hard white clay subsoil, which is exceedingly difficult to cultivate. The whole of the township except a few swamps or muskegs is covered by a thick growth of poplar, averaging about 10 inches in diameter. In many places the trees are 20 inches in diameter and are long and straight. To clear the land for agriculture the cost would be upwards of \$35 per acre. This will retard the settlement of the township. The only hay found is around Michaud Lake in section 25. Pembina River, which runs through the township, enters in section 1 and passes through sections 1, 12, 11, 10, 14, 15, 23, 22, 27, 28 and 33. The water of the river is good. The cross section at time of survey (November) was about 600 square feet, having a velocity of about two miles per hour. At high water the cross section is fully ten times as great. There are no water-powers nor stone quarries. At many points along the river there are outcrops of apparently good sandstone, in some places 40 feet thick. Underneath this sandstone is a layer of lignite coal, of a superior quality, being equal to that found in the vicinity of Edmonton. The seam of coal seems to be about 6 feet thick and outcrops frequently along the river. Other minerals of economic value do not occur.—1906.
56. This township is covered with a heavy growth of timber, consisting of poplar 5 inches to 12 inches in diameter and spruce 4 inches to 15 inches in diameter, except parts of sections 31, 32, 33, 34, 35, 36, 28 and 27, over which the fire has run, leaving only a few bluffs of green poplar, with a new growth of small poplar and willow brush. These are good farming sections. The balance of the township is too thickly wooded for immediate settlement. A pretty good wagon trail from Lake Ste. Anne to Paddle River crosses sections 31, 32, 33, 34, 26 and 25. Pembina River flowing north crosses sections 4, 9, 16, 15, 22, 27, 23, 26, 35 and 36. This township is well watered by numerous creeks. The land is about level on the west side of the Pembina and rolling on the east side. It is a good second class land. There is good fish in the river; but I did not see any game in the township. There are good seams of coal all along the Pembina, which is also running a little gold.—1905.

Range 8.

52. This township is accessible by the road from Stony Plain to Entwistle. Owing to the heavy traffic over this road last summer in connection with

GRAND TRUNK PACIFIC RAILWAY

TOWNSHIPS WEST OF FIFTH MERIDIAN—Continued.

Town-
ship.

freighting supplies for the Grand Trunk Pacific contractors, the road was nearly impassable. The soil is chiefly clay, and if cleared would doubtless be well suited for general agricultural purposes, but being heavily timbered, it would be quite undesirable for settlement under present conditions. The timber is chiefly poplar with some cottonwood and spruce with dense growth of underbrush or scrub in most places. The poplar is sound and would no doubt make excellent pulpwood. There are no extensive hay areas. Several creeks, all with one exception, affording good fresh water, are found, but there are no water-powers. Frosts are prevalent in summer. The abundant timber affords fuel but there are no stone quarries nor minerals of economic value. Traces of moose, deer, bear and beaver were seen. The beaver were very numerous here formerly but have all disappeared except in one pond in section 1. The northwest quarter of the township is very swampy.—1908.

53. This township is covered with a heavy growth of timber consisting of poplar from 8 to 16 inches in diameter and spruce from 10 to 18 inches, excepting sections on the north of Lobstick River over which the fire has run leaving only clumps of green timber and dry wood. The heaviest timber (that which is fit for converting into timber) is on sections 3, 4, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 17, 18, 19 and 20. The land in this township is level and consists of from 3 to 12 inches of loam with clay subsoil. It is well watered by numerous creeks and springs flowing into Lobstick River. Lobstick River enters the township on section 31 and flows across sections 30, 29, 28, 27, and 26 and 25. The course of the river is very tortuous. All along its bed are found fragments of coal and clay iron stones. The Jasper House pack trail that I opened as a wagon trail crosses sections 36, 26, 27, 28, 29 and 30. There is no game and just a few fish in the river.—1905.

54. The surveyor who subdivided this township died before his report was prepared. No report therefore is available for this township.

55. There are two roads reaching this township, but the best one at the present time is the one that passes to Lake Ste. Anne mission and from there to the south crossing the Pembina River. The soil is a black loam with a white clay subsoil and is not suitable for farming purposes. It is entirely covered with large timber, such as spruce, balsam, jackpine, poplar and cottonwood varying from 6 to 24 inches in diameter. There are a few hay marshes in sections 33, 34, and 35, but of little importance. Water is very scarce, though the northern part of this township shows many small coulees, which appear to be dry the most of the year. There is no water-power. The climate is the best in all the west. No summer frosts occur. No indications of coal, stone quarries nor minerals of any kind were noticed. Foxes, lynx and wolves are plentiful, but other game is scarce. This township would make a good timber reservation.—1905.

56. There is a good trail as far as Lake Ste. Anne mission, but from this place the road has been lately opened through a heavy bush and is not very good on that account. There is also another road farther north which has been opened by the Grand Trunk Pacific Railway for their exploring purposes. I am told it is much longer but better. The soil is very rich and composed of black loam 6 to 18 inches thick with clay as subsoil. It is suitable for general farming. The surface is level, covered with a second growth of poplars and inclined towards the north. All these small poplars are dry, and another fire will clean the place. The western part of this

GRAND TRUNK PACIFIC RAILWAY

TOWNSHIPS WEST OF FIFTH MERIDIAN—Continued.

Town-
ship.

township is broken by deep ravines. It is covered by bluffs of poplar and spruce. In a few places the timber is from 6 inches to 18 inches in diameter and ought to be reserved for settlers. There are just a few hay marshes, but the whole surface is covered with long grass and wild pea-vine. The water is fresh and the supply permanent. The south branch of Paddle River crosses the northern part in sections 35, 34, 33, 28, 29 and 30. It is about one chain wide. There is no water-power. The climate is the best in all the west, there being no summer frost and the winters are mild. Indications of coal are to be seen all along the banks of Paddle River. There is no stone quarry.—1905.

Range 9.

52. A road from Stony Plain via Entwistle and thence westward across Pembina River, runs within three miles of the northern boundary of this township. The soil is clay covered in most places by moss or vegetable mould. Over one-half the surface is swampy, alternating with jackpine ridges. There is a heavy growth of timber, but very little of any commercial value. There are no extensive hay areas, except a few strips of good grass along the creek. Several creeks afford a supply of good fresh water but there are no water-powers. Frosts are prevalent in summer. There is abundant wood for fuel, but no stone quarries nor minerals of economic value were found. This township is very undesirable for settlement as there is scarcely any good land.—1908.
53. This township is covered with a heavy growth of timber consisting of poplar 8 to 10 inches in diameter and spruce from 10 to 18 inches; excepting the sections 36, 35, 25, 26, 34, 27, 33, 28, 21, 29, 20, 30, 19, and 18 over which the fire has run leaving only few clumps of green timber and dry wood. There is now on these sections a second growth of poplar and spruce, anyhow they are well adapted for mixed farming and ranching. The land is level and consists of from 3 to 12 inches of black loam on clay subsoil. It is well watered by numerous creeks and springs. Chip Lake covers part of sections 31, 30, 29, 28, 33 and all section 32. The Lobstick River runs across sections 36, 35, 34 and 33. The Jasper House pack trail crosses sections 25, 24, 23, 22, 21, 16, 17, and #8. There is some good fish in Chip Lake.—1905.
54. This township was reached by crossing Chip Lake on the ice thence by pack horses to section 21. There is a trail known as "Jock's trail" passing through the north part of this township. The soil is mostly clay and is suitable for farm purposes. The surface is gently rolling covered with poplar and willow. In the southwest sections of this township and in those sections bordering on the lake there is a large tamarac muskeg, which might be suitable for farm purposes when drained. There are no meadows, but some hay is found along the lake. The water is fresh and consists of one large creek running southerly through the township. It crosses the north boundary of section 34 and flows into Lobstick River. It is about 50 links wide and from 2 to 6 feet deep. Dry tamarac, spruce and poplar may be obtained in large quantities for fuel.—1907.
55. A pack trail from Lac Ste. Anne to McLeod River commonly called "Jock's trail" passes about two miles south of this township. From this trail, near the east boundary of section 27, Township 54, another pack trail runs north to the north boundary of township 55. It is in good condition. The

GRAND TRUNK PACIFIC RAILWAY

TOWNSHIPS WEST OF FIFTH MERIDIAN—Continued

Township.

surface of the township is gently rolling and covered by a thick growth of poplar, spruce and jackpine. The timber is suitable for building purposes, but has no commercial value. The soil is mostly 2 to 3 inches of black loam and clay subsoil. Hay is scarce; water is plentiful and of good quality. No minerals, stone quarries or coal were noticed. There are no large streams and no water-powers. The climate is similar to that of Edmonton. No summer frosts were noticed.—1908.

56. A pack trail leaving Jock's trail near the east boundary of section 27, township 54, range 9 and running through the centre of township 55, gives access to this township. Except in a few low spots this trail is in good condition. The soil consists of black loam to a depth of 2 to 6 inches and clay subsoil. It is suitable for farming. The surface is rolling, covered with old brule grown up with scrubby willow and poplar with patches of heavy timber. The timber is poplar, spruce and tamarac scattered through the township. Upland hay of good quality is abundant but there are no hay meadows. Water is furnished by Paddle River and several other large creeks. It is of good quality and the supply is permanent. Paddle River averages about 50 feet in width with a depth of about 3 feet at low water. In time of high water there must be from 6 to 10 feet of water although the land adjoining the river has never been flooded. No water-power is available. The climate is similar to that of Edmonton. Wood fuel is available on every quarter section. No stone quarries, coal or minerals were noticed.—1908.

Range 10.

52. (East Outline). This line is almost all swamp, crossed at intervals by jackpine ridges. There is no timber of any value, and the land is unfit for agricultural purposes.—1908.
53. This township can be reached by the Yellowhead pack trail which runs through the southern part of this township. The soil is principally clay and when cleared of the heavy bush will be suitable for farming. This township is gently rolling and covered with a heavy growth of poplar, willow, jackpine, tamarac, spruce, birch and balsam. Some timber suitable for lumber can be found in the southern part of this township. No hay meadows were seen but hay in quantity can be obtained along the shore of Chip Lake. The water in this lake as well as in all the creeks in this township is fresh. The creeks are small and I think will be dry in summer time. The climate was cold at the time of the survey (April). Plenty of dry tamarac, jackpine, spruce and poplar can be obtained for fuel, but no coal was seen. No stone quarries nor minerals were observed.—1907.
54. The soil is mostly clay and is suitable for farming. The surface is gently rolling and covered with poplar, willow and spruce but there is no timber of importance in this vicinity. Hay is plentiful along the lake, but no hay meadows were seen. Fresh water is found in the lake. One large creek occurs in the western part of this township. It flows into Chip Lake crossing the north boundary of section 32. It is about 50 links wide and 3 to 5 feet deep. Plenty of dry poplar and tamarac can be obtained for fuel but no coal was seen. There are no minerals nor stone quarries.—1907.
55. The pack trail known as "Jock's trail" runs through the southern portion of the township, making it easily accessible except during the spring

TOWNSHIPS WEST OF FIFTH MERIDIAN—*Continued.*Town-
ship.

months. The surface of the township is rolling, the soil generally consisting of from 2 to 10 inches of black or vegetable loam, underlain by a subsoil varying from clay to sandy clay, gravel being found in but few places. With the exception of the northern central portions the township is heavily wooded, poplar and pitch pine being found throughout, while in sections 29, 30, 31 and 24, considerable spruce up to 28 inches in diameter and of excellent quality is found. Sections 4, 9, 36, 20 and 29 are largely tamarac and spruce swamp. These swamps, acting as reservoirs, furnish a supply of clear, fresh water for a number of small creeks. Upland grass is found throughout the township but in no place is this abundant. There are no hay sloughs. The township generally is suitable for agriculture.—1908.

56. The township is easily reached by pack animals either from Jock's trail which runs through the southerly portion of township 55, range 10, or from Sturgeon trail on the north. The surface throughout is rolling, the soil generally consisting of from 2 to 10 inches of black loam, underlain by a subsoil varying from clay to sandy clay. Very little gravel occurs and the soil throughout is suitable for agriculture. The township is in general heavily wooded with poplar, and in the lower lands along Paddle River with spruce and tamarac, spruce up to 24 inches in diameter being occasionally found. The sections along the base line are covered with willow and poplar scrub. Upland grass, pea vine and vetch occur throughout the township, there being excellent grass in sections 28, 29, and 30. The township is drained by Paddle River which with its branches and tributaries gives a permanent supply of clear fresh water. No stone in place, minerals or water-powers were found. The climate resembles that of Edmonton district.—1908.

Range 11.

53. The Jasper or Yellowhead pack trail passes through the southern part of the township. The soil is black loam and clay suitable for farming. The surface is level and covered with poplar, spruce, tamarac and willow. There is spruce and tamarac suitable for timber in sections 1, 2, 3, 4, 9, 10 and 11. It is from 8 to 16 inches in diameter. No hay is found. There are several small creeks in this township, the water of which is fresh. The land is not liable to be flooded and no water powers occur. Fuel consists of plenty of dry spruce, tamarac and poplar, but no coal. No stone quarries nor minerals are found.—1907.
54. This township is nearly all muskeg. If the land can be drained it will be suitable for farming. The surface is level and covered with small poplar, willow, swamp spruce and tamarac. There is no timber nor hay in this township. Lobstick River flows through this township, through sections 18, 17, 16, 9, 10 and 3. No water power is found. The climate was warm at time of survey (September) with no summer frosts. Fuel consists of plenty of dry spruce, tamarac and poplar, but no coal, stone quarries nor minerals are found.—1907.
55. The pack trail from Lac Ste. Anne to McLeod River, known as "Jock's" trail, runs in a westerly direction through the centre of the township. A winter trail enters the township in section 1 and leaves it in section 19. The township is thus easily accessible except during the spring months. The northern half of the township is sharply divided from the southern

GRAND TRUNK PACIFIC RAILWAY

TOWNSHIPS WEST OF FIFTH MERIDIAN—Continued.

Town-
ship

by a ridge which runs westerly through the centre of the township. The northern portion is heavily rolling and covered with poplar generally, the ridges being covered with willow and poplar scrub, while spruce and tamarac are found in the lower valleys. The soil in this portion consists of from two to four inches vegetable loam underlain by clay or sandy clay, stones and boulders being found on all the ridges. The southern portion consists of tamarac and spruce swamps, with an occasional ridge of poplar and jackpine. In sections 4, 5, 6 and 7 considerable spruce up to thirty inches diameter and of an excellent quality is found. Fuel is of course abundant. The township is not well adapted for agriculture. The creeks and small lakes which are found in the southern portion of the township drain into Poison Creek, a stream twenty-five feet wide and about six feet deep, where it leaves the township in section 1. Water is excellent and abundant. Grass grows throughout the township but no hay sloughs were found.—1908.

56. The township is most easily reached from the pack trail, known as "Jock's" trail from Lac Ste. Anne to McLeod River, which runs through the centre of the township to the south. With the exception of the spring months, this trail is in good condition through the year, there being a winter road for sleighs. The surface of the township is heavily rolling, the soil consisting of sandy clay with gravel and stones on all the uplands. The western half of the township is covered with poplar and willow scrub, while the eastern portion is heavily wooded with poplar, birch, jackpine and spruce, tamarac being found in the lower lying lands. Small hay sloughs occur in sections 29 and 27, but upland grass is fairly abundant throughout the western portion of the township. Clear, fresh water is furnished by a number of small creeks but this supply in a dry season would in all probability fail. These creeks eventually drain into Paddle River. The climate resembles that of the Edmonton district, but frosts occur very early. Fuel is abundant. No minerals, stone in place or coal were found. Grouse are plentiful and one moose was seen, these being the only game noticed.—1908.

Range 12.

53. The township is level and covered with a thick growth of poplar, spruce and willow. There is some large spruce, but not in sufficient quantity for timber. When cleared, the soil, which is mostly black loam and clay, will be suitable for farm purposes. In section 6, near Lobstick River there is some hay land, but no other hay lands were seen. Lobstick River flows along the west boundary. The water is fresh. There is also a number of creeks, but no water power. Fuel consists of plenty of dry wood, but no coal was seen.—1907.
54. This township is nearly all muskeg and under water; not suitable for farming. It is level and covered with poplar, willow and swamp spruce and tamarac. There is no timber except a small amount along Lobstick River. This occurs in sections 19, 20 and 21. This timber is spruce and tamarac varying from 10 to 24 inches in diameter. There are no hay lands. Lobstick River flows along the west boundary, north boundaries of sections 19, 20, 21, and east boundaries of 22, 14 and 13. It is about 60 feet wide and varies from 2 to 10 feet deep. The water is fresh. The climate was warm at the time of survey (September), with no frosts. Fuel consists of plenty of dry poplar, spruce and tamarac, but no coal nor minerals are found.—1907.

GRAND TRUNK PACIFIC RAILWAY

TOWNSHIPS WEST OF FIFTH MERIDIAN—Continued.

Town-
ship.

55. The trail known as "Jock's" trail runs in a westerly direction through the northerly portion of the township. Except during the spring months when the trail becomes rather wet, the township is easily reached from the Grand Trunk Pacific Railway, by means of pack animals, while during the winter sleighs can be used, the trail being cut wide enough for that purpose. The surface of the township is gently rolling and is heavily wooded, the northern third having poplar and spruce while the southern portion is heavily covered with spruce, tamarac and jack-pine. With the exception of clumps of heavy spruce along the southern boundary, none of the timber is of much value. In sections 1, 4 and 5, however, considerable spruce of a good quality is to be found. The soil on the uplands consists of from two to six inches of black loam underlain by sand or sandy clay with boulders in many places. In the lower lying portion the usual growth of moss underlain by black muck is found. The township is quite unsuitable for agriculture at present. Several small lakes are found in the southern portion of the township giving a permanent supply of clear fresh water, which drains by way of Poison Creek into Lobstick Lake, the northwest corner of the township, however, drains into McLeod River. Upland grass is luxuriant and a small quantity of hay could be cut around the lake lying along the north boundary of section 9. Fuel is abundant. No minerals, water-powers or stone in place were found. The climate resembles that of the McLeod River district, being slightly more extreme than that of Edmonton.—1908.
56. This township is easily reached from the trail known as "Jock's" trail, which runs in a westerly direction through the northern portion; it is cut wide enough for sleighs and as a pack trail is in good condition except during early spring. The surface is heavily rolling, the soil consisting of sandy clay or clay with from two to eight inches of vegetable loam on the surface. The eastern two-thirds of the township is in general covered with willow and poplar scrub, spruce and tamarac being found in the lower depressions. In the western portion considerable spruce, poplar and birch of good size and fair quality is found, the underbrush being very heavy. Jackpine ridges occur along the western limit, but the timber is of very little or no value. The western portion of the township is unsuitable for agricultural purposes but the eastern portion is very good and quite suitable. No hay sloughs of any size were found though upland grass is abundant. There is plenty of water of excellent quality, several small creeks furnishing a permanent supply. No minerals, coal or stone quarries were found. The climate is the same as that of Edmonton.—1908.

Range 13.

53. The Yellowhead pack trail passes through the southern part of this township. The soil in this township is very good, being black loam and clay subsoil. It is suitable for farm purposes. The township is gently rolling covered with small poplar and willow. There is no timber in this township. No hay meadows are found. Carrot River flows along the western boundary of this township. It is about sixty feet wide and two to four feet deep. The water is fresh, the land is not liable to be flooded. It was fine summer weather with no frosts at the time of the survey. Plenty of dry poplar can be found anywhere. No coal was found. No stone quarries nor minerals were found.—1907.
54. An old Indian pack trail follows along the east bank of Carrot River. The soil is nearly all muskeg, not suitable for farming. This township is level

GRAND TRUNK PACIFIC RAILWAY

TOWNSHIPS WEST OF FIFTH MERIDIAN—Continued.

Town-
ship.

and covered with poplar, willow and tamarac and spruce. There is no timber, the tamarac and spruce found being small. No hay land is found. Carrot River flows through the western part of this township. The water is fresh. The climate was warm at time of survey (August) with no frosts. Fuel consists of plenty of dry poplar, spruce and tamarac, but no coal was seen. There are no stone quarries nor minerals.—1907.

55. The trail known as "Jock's" trail runs through the northerly portion of this township; except in the spring this trail is in good condition, for pack horses in summer and sleighs in winter. The trail runs either to Lac Ste. Anne or Entwistle. The surface is gently rolling and with the exception of some clumps of fair spruce along McLeod River is covered with small spruce, tamarac, jackpine and poplar, most of which is fire-killed. The soil of the uplands consists of clay, sandy clay or sand with boulders in places and on the whole is hardly suitable for agricultural purposes. Although good soil is found on some of the flats, the south-eastern portion of the township is wet, consisting of spruce and tamarac swamps, the small jackpine ridges being covered with windfall. While upland grass is abundant in the northern portion, and on nearly all the flats along the river, very little hay could be cut. No minerals or coal were seen although there are several outcrops of gray sandstone along the river. Excellent water is found all over the township. The climate is a little more severe than that of Edmonton.—1907.

56. The Shining Bank Lake trails are suitable for either pack horses in summer or sleighs in winter. The pack trail is in good condition except in the early spring, the township is thus easily accessible. The surface is rolling. The soil to the east of McLeod River, which flows through this township in a northerly direction, is chiefly sand, while west of the river it is sandy clay or clay with a few inches of black loam on the surface. There are a few clumps of good spruce along the west side of the river, but the land lying east is covered with jackpine, spruce, tamarac and poplar of poor quality. The soil is hardly suitable for agriculture except on the flats along the west bank of the McLeod. A few small hay sloughs occur in the eastern portion of the township, while in the western portion upland grass is abundant. Water of excellent quality is found everywhere. The creeks drain into McLeod River. Gold washing has been carried on in the river at different times. No coal was seen, but several sand stone exposures occur along the McLeod. The climate is practically the same as that of Edmonton. There are plenty of fish in the river—1908.

Range 14.

53. The Yellowhead pack trail runs through the southern part of this township. The soil is mostly black loam with clay subsoil. When cleared the country will be suitable for farming. The surface is covered with poplar and willow, but no timber nor hay is to be found. There is a small creek flowing through sections 30, 29, 28, 27, 26 and 25 but there is no water-power in the township. There were no frosts at time of survey (July). There is plenty of dry poplar in this township but no stone quarries nor minerals were found.—1908.
54. The Grand Trunk pack trail passes through sections 12, 14, 15, 9, 8, 17 and 18. The soil consists of alternately muskeg and sand ridges, not suitable for farming. The surface is gently rolling and covered with small pop-

TOWNSHIPS WEST OF FIFTH MERIDIAN—*Continued.*

Town-
ship.

lar, jackpine and willow on the ridges and spruce and tamarac on the muskegs. There is no timber in this township. No hay is found. There is one small creek flowing north through the centre of the township. The water is fresh. There is also a small lake in section 19, too small to traverse. The climate was clear and fine at time of survey (September) with frosts at night. Fuel consists of plenty of dry poplar, jackpine, tamarac and spruce but no coal. No stone quarries nor minerals are found.—1907.

55. The soil is black loam and clay subsoil suitable for farming. The surface is covered with small poplar and willow, and in section 12, along McLeod River, there are some large spruce and tamarac varying in size from six to twenty-four inches in diameter. There is plenty of hay land in sections 4, 9, 10, 11, 3 and 2. It is good quality both lowland and upland. McLeod River, a fine fresh water stream, flows through the southern part of this township. Plenty of dry poplar for fuel is to be found anywhere.—1908.

56. The soil which is black loam with clay subsoil is suitable for farming. The surface is covered with small poplar and willow too small for timber purposes. There is plenty of upland hay of good quality found principally in sections 32, 33, 34, 27, 26, 25, 22, 23, 14 and 24. There is an abundance of fresh water in this township. Shining Bank Lake is a large body of fresh water comprising sections 27, 28, 29 and 30. Shining Bank Creek flows easterly from the lake and empties into McLeod River. Dry poplar for fuel can be found anywhere in the township. Moose and bear were seen, and plenty of geese and duck on Shining Bank Lake.—1908.

Range 18.

52. This township is reached by the Yellowhead pack trail which runs through the southern part of it. The trail was in very poor condition. The soil is nearly all black loam with clay subsoil. When cleared it will be suitable for farming. The surface is covered with poplar, willow and jackpine, but the wood is too small for timber purposes. There is no hay. In section 29 there is a fine fresh water lake and a smaller one in section 20. Wolf River flows northerly through the western part. It is a fresh water stream varying in depth from two to six feet, but there is no water-power in the township. At the time of survey (August) there were no frosts. There is plenty of dry poplar and tamarac, but no stone quarries nor minerals were found. No game was seen.—1908.

53. In this township the soil is nearly all black loam with clay subsoil. When cleared it will be suitable for farming. The surface is covered with poplar, willow and jackpine, but it is too small for timber purposes. There is no hay. In section 9 there is a fine fresh water lake and a smaller one in section 16. The creeks are all very small in this township. The weather was warm at the time of survey (July). There is plenty of dry poplar and tamarac for fuel.—1908.

54. The soil is black loam and clay. It is suitable for farm purposes. The surface is rolling and covered with small poplar, jackpine, willow and windfall. There is a small amount of timber in sections 11, 12, 2 and 1 of this township, consisting of tamarac and spruce varying in size from ten to twenty-four inches in diameter. There is some hay land to be found in the flats along McLeod River which flows along the north boundaries of sections

GRAND TRUNK PACIFIC RAILWAY

TOWNSHIPS WEST OF FIFTH MERIDIAN—Continued.

Town-
ship.

19, 20, 21, 22, 23, and 24. It is a fine stream. The water is fresh. It is about 500 feet wide and varies from one to ten feet in depth. At time of survey (October) it was shallow but usually it is very difficult to ford. Fuel consists of plenty of dry spruce, tamarac, poplar and jackpine but no coal was seen.—1907.

53. The soil is mostly sandy loam and suitable for farm purposes when cleared of its small poplar and willow. No timber of value nor any hay land was found. There are several fresh water lakes, but no water-powers. There is plenty of dry poplar and tamarac for fuel.—1908.

Range 16.

52. This township is reached by the Jasper or Yellowhead pack trail which passes through the northern part of the township, but it was in very poor condition. The soil, which is black loam with clay subsoil, will be suitable for farming when cleared of poplar, willow, spruce and tamarac with which the surface is now covered. This is all too small for timber purposes. There are no hay meadows. Moose Creek, a fine fresh water stream about two chains wide and varying in depth from one to six feet, flows northerly through the western part. The weather was very warm at the time of the survey (August). There is plenty of dry spruce and tamarac for fuel, but no stone quarries nor minerals were found.—1908.

53. One can pass anywhere in this township with pack horses. The soil is mostly black loam and clay. It is suitable for farming. The surface is gently rolling except near the mouth of Wolf River, where it is broken. It is covered with poplar, willow, small jackpine, spruce and tamarac but there is no timber. Plenty of hay is found in the flats of McLeod River, which runs through the centre of this township. Wolf River also passes through this township. It is a stream about 100 feet wide and varying from 2 to 6 feet in depth. The water is fresh. Water power could be developed either on Wolf or McLeod Rivers by damming. There was plenty of dry poplar, spruce, tamarac and jackpine, but no coal was seen. Some sand stone was found along McLeod River but no minerals were seen.—1907.

54. One can pass anywhere in this township with pack horses. The soil is mostly black loam and clay. It is suitable for farming. The surface is gently rolling and covered with small poplar and willow, but there is no timber. Plenty of hay can be obtained in the flats along McLeod River, which flows through this township. It is a fine stream being about 500 feet wide containing fresh water and varying from one to ten feet at low water mark. Muskeg River also flows east through this township, and enters into the McLeod. It is a small stream about sixty feet wide, two to six feet deep and contains fresh water. There was fine weather at time of survey (November) with frosts. Fuel consists of plenty of dry wood, poplar, jackpine and spruce, but no coal, stone quarries nor minerals were found.—1907.

Range 17.

52. This township was reached by the Jasper or Yellowhead pack trail, which was in very poor condition. The soil in the southern part is black loam and clay subsoil suitable for farming. In the northern part, especially near McLeod River, it is sand and may be only good grazing. The surface is covered with small poplar, willow, spruce and tamarac. There is some

TOWNSHIPS WEST OF FIFTH MERIDIAN—*Continued.*Town-
ship.

spruce and tamarac large enough for timber in sections 3, 4, 5 and 6. It varies from eight to twenty-four inches in diameter. There are no hay meadows. McLeod River passes through the northern part of this township. The weather was very warm at the time of survey (August). There is plenty of dry tamarac and spruce for fuel, but no stone quarries nor minerals were found.—1908.

53. The soil is black loam and clay. It is suitable for farm purposes. The surface of this township is level except near the Macleod where it is rolling. It is covered with poplar, willow, spruce and tamarac. It is very heavy in the northern part but there is no timber in the township. There are no hay lands. McLeod River flows through the southern part of the township. There are also some creeks. The water is fresh in all. Fine weather existed at time of survey (November) with frosts. Fuel consists of plenty of dry wood such as tamarac, spruce, poplar and jackpine. Small pieces of coal were seen along McLeod River. Some sandstone along the McLeod River might be used for building purposes. No minerals were seen.—1907.

Range 18.

52. This township in general is high and rolling and wooded with poplar, spruce and jackpine from three to seven inches in diameter. McLeod River meanders through the western part of it in a wide and deep valley in which there are several good hay meadows. Along the river, are found many clumps of spruce, the trees averaging about ten inches in diameter, and running to a height of about sixty feet, but the timber in general is only fit for fuel or fencing, though the better portion of it is suitable for building log houses. The soil is mainly clay loam but several sandy ridges are met with, and in the eastern part of the township a considerable number of swamps with tamarac and spruce are to be found. The greater portion of the township is well fitted for settlement, and when cleared will be found to be well adapted for grain growing and mixed farming.—1907.

53. The pack trail to Yellowhead pass runs across this township. The soil in the southern portion of the township is a good black loam with a clay subsoil and is very suitable for mixed farming. The surface is covered with small poplar, willow and some small spruce and jackpine, and is rolling, sloping towards the McLeod which flows through sections 2, 3 and 4, the northern portion of the township being chiefly spruce muskeg with a few ridges of jackpine and poplar and is not very suitable for farming. There are a number of creeks containing good water besides the McLeod River. Fuel is very plentiful but there are no minerals, stone quarries or water powers. The climate is the same as that of Edmonton; no summer frosts were noticed. The creeks and river abound with fish of every description.—1907.

Range 19.

52. The trail from Edmonton to the Yellowhead pass crosses the northwest corner of this township. The soil on the north side of McLeod River is black loam with clay and sand subsoil and is very suitable for mixed farming. To the south of the river it is chiefly peat in the muskeg with sand on the jackpine ridges and is not well adapted to agricultural purposes. The surface is rolling and covered with small poplar, willow and jackpine in the northern portion; to the south, and along the river bank it is spruce, tamarac and jackpine up to 30 inches in diameter. There are

TOWNSHIPS WEST OF FIFTH MERIDIAN—Continued.

Town-
ship.

some good hay lands around the lakes in the north of this township. Wood is plentiful everywhere. Water can be obtained from the McLeod River, the lakes and numerous small creeks. It is all fresh water. There are no minerals, stone quarries or water powers. The climate is the same as at Edmonton.—1907.

53. The pack trail from Edmonton to Yellowhead pass runs through the southern part of this township. The soil is black loam with clay and sand subsoil and suitable for mixed farming. The surface is rolling and covered with poplar, spruce and jackpine up to 12 inches in diameter and can be used for building purposes. There are several small hay sloughs scattered through the township, also numerous small fresh water creeks. Wood for fuel is also plentiful. The climate is similar to that of Edmonton. There are no minerals, stone quarries or water powers. Beds which are supposed to contain marl or gypsum lie in sections 5, 6 and 7, but no proper analysis has been made. Sun Dance Creek is full of trout.—1907.

Range 20.

52. Yellowhead pass trail runs across this township about a mile south of the fourteenth base line. The soil, except on the north side of McLeod River, where it is black loam, with clay subsoil, and very well adapted for farming, is chiefly peat in the muskegs with sandy ridges and is very unsuitable for farming. The surface is rolling and covered with spruce, tamarac, jackpine and poplar. The spruce along the river measures up to three feet in diameter and will make good lumbering timber. The average size of the remainder is about ten inches. There are no hay lands. Water is supplied by McLeod River and several creeks of good fresh water. There is a large quantity of wood fuel but no minerals, stone quarries or water powers. The climate is the same as that of Edmonton.—1907.

53. There are no regular trails into this township but it can be reached from the Yellowhead pass pack trail, which runs along McLeod River about a mile south of the fourteenth base line. The soil is a sandy loam and is not very suitable for farming. The surface is rolling, and covered with spruce, tamarac and jackpine with a few ridges of poplar. The timber will average about 9 inches and is suitable for building and fencing. There are a few hay sloughs scattered through the township, but they are of no importance. Water is plentiful in the numerous small creeks and lakes. There are no minerals, stone quarries or water powers. Wood for fuel can be procured everywhere as fire has been through most of the township and left quantities of dry wood.—1907.

Range 21.

52. McLeod River flows through the northerly part of this township from west to east, in a wide valley, depressed about sixty feet below the level of the adjoining lands. Along the river in the flats of this valley, there are several fine open hay meadows, varying in width from ten to forty chains. Other portions of the valley are wooded with spruce, averaging ten inches in diameter, or cottonwood, from eight to fourteen inches in diameter, also in places, the valley is broken by ridges of gravel. The soil in township 52, range 21, is mainly light sandy loam, interspersed with small areas of stony clay, black muck, &c. In the valley of McLeod River, the soil is mainly a rich dark alluvium. The township as a whole is fairly well

GRAND TRUNK PACIFIC RAILWAY

TOWNSHIPS WEST OF FIFTH MERIDIAN—Continued.

Township.

adapted for agricultural purposes. The timber is only suitable for the ordinary uses of settlers such as providing fuel, fencing and logs for buildings.—1907.

53. This township is broken considerably by a number of lakes and swamps. Along the southern boundary, sections 1 and 2 are light brule with second growth poplar; section 3, stony land with second growth poplar and jackpine, sections 4 and 5 are mainly light brule, and the south-westerly part of section 5 is broken by a small lake. Section 6 is mainly mossy swampy land. The soil is principally sandy loam, with interspersed areas of stony clay. I did not explore the northern part of this township, but apparently considerable areas of fairly good agricultural land are to be found scattered through it.—1907.

Range 22.

52. The greater portion of this township is rough and broken; the north-eastern part of it is swampy with spruce, five inches in diameter, or brule, with a good deal of fallen timber, and a growth of young jackpine. The western part of the township is occupied by the high ridge or divide between McLeod and Athabaska Rivers. The valley of the McLeod, which occupies the south-easterly part of the township is the most desirable part of it and is well adapted for mixed farming or grazing lands. The soil in the valley is a rich, dark alluvial deposit, and in the remainder of the township it is mainly a light sandy loam, fairly well adapted for grain growing.—1907.
53. The south-eastern part of this township is rather low and swampy and also broken by small lakes, surrounded with green spruce or tamarac, varying from three to six inches in diameter but there is also a good deal of brule to be met with. The south-western portion of the township is occupied by the northerly end of the high ridge or divide lying between McLeod and Athabaska Rivers. Section 4 on this divide is heavily timbered with spruce and jackpine from six to thirty inches in diameter and scattered poplar from ten to eighteen inches in diameter. Athabaska River runs through the north-western part of the township in a wide and deep valley. The soil, in this township is light sandy loam interspersed with areas of yellow sandy clay, and would be fairly well adapted for agricultural purposes. On the south central portion of the township as previously referred to there is a considerable area of timber suitable for lumbering purposes.—1907.

Range 23.

52. Athabaska River flows through the north-western corner of this township in a deep valley in which the bottom is rather narrow and confined, being wooded or brule rather than hay flats, however on the north-westerly side of the river, both in the valley and on the plateau above, there is a considerable stretch of brule, in which there is a good growth of grass. This portion of the township, on the north-western side of the river is principally light brule, with second growth poplar, and scattered small areas of medium sized spruce and jackpine, and is mainly high dry land ascending towards the west, and is broken by the deep valley of a creek running south-easterly into Athabaska River. The soil in this township is light, sandy loam, and interspersed areas with yellow, sandy clay, or gravelly soil. The surface is well watered with many small and medium sized creeks and when cleared should make good agricultural or grazing lands.—1907.

GRAND TRUNK PACIFIC RAILWAY

TOWNSHIPS WEST OF FIFTH MERIDIAN—Continued.

Town-
ship.

53. Athabaska River flows north-easterly through this township and cuts off its south-east corner in the form of a triangle, having its south and east sides each about four miles in length. The whole of this triangle, except minor undulations, slopes north-westerly towards the river and forms part of the bank of its valley. The greater part of this triangle is brule with a large amount of standing dead timber, but near the river. In the southern part of the township, there is a tract about two miles long and half a mile wide, wooded with poplar, spruce and jackpine from six to twelve inches in diameter. The northerly loop of the Yellowhead pass trail, which comes around by the northerly end of the high divide between McLeod and Athabaska Rivers, passes through this woods. A medium sized creek, flowing in a deep valley, cuts into the south-west corner of this township and a short distance north of this valley, the easterly side of a high hill or ridge projects into this township from the west and its top, which rises to a height of one thousand feet above Athabaska River, is very light brule, or nearly open prairie. The north-westerly part of the township is high rolling, and broken by a number of high ridges, partly wooded with spruce and partly very light brule. The soil in this township is mainly light, sandy loam, but there are tracts of clay with a stony or gravelly subsoil. Some portions of this township are rather rough and high rolling, but large parts of it when cleared will make good agricultural or grazing lands, and the township is well watered throughout, with many small and medium sized creeks. The timber is suitable only for meeting the ordinary requirements of settlers. Athabaska River in this township averages about five hundred feet in width.—1907.

Range 24.

52. Athabaska River flows north-easterly through the south-easterly part of this township, but there is little or no bottom or grazing land in its valley on either side of the river in this township. The northern part of the township is mainly heavy rolling land with a general ascent to the west, away from the river, and continues to rise, till near the north-east corner of section 31, where the top of the plateau or "mountain" is reached, it attains an elevation of 4850 feet, or about 1750 feet above Athabaska River. The greater part of this township is more or less rolling and covered with brule, having scattered areas of second growth poplar, or groves of medium sized spruce, but in the north-west corner of the township on the top of the plateau or "mountain" is a heavy growth of spruce from six to twenty-two inches in diameter. The soil varies from sandy loam in certain portions of the township to yellow clay in others, and the greater portion of the township will no doubt be found to be fairly well adapted for grain growing or mixed farming. The timber generally is fit only for the ordinary purposes of settlers, except at the north-west corner of the township where it is suitable for lumber.—1907.